

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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ROWNY CHARGES CIA AGENT IN START DELEGATION

LD180809 Moscow TASS in English 0801 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Washington March 18 TASS -- The CIA has infiltrated the U.S. delegation to the Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic armaments. This secret was let out by no other than Edward Leon Rowny, the head of the delegation. In a memorandum addressed to Kenneth Adelman, whom the White House appointed head of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, he called an agent of the U.S. spying agency by name and mentioned his real post.

The contents of the memorandum handed over to the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee are a closely guarded secret. However, THE WASHINGTON POST managed to get acquainted with the document through the committee sources, and inform the public about them. A CIA agent, according to THE WASHINGTON POST, works under the diplomatic cover and officially is one of the members of the U.S. delegation to the Geneva talks.

The same memo lists the names of a total of 18 persons -- members of the U.S. delegation -- who are either insufficiently "anti-Soviet minded", or are "too" interested in attaining agreement with the Soviet Union.

FURTHER ON DISARMAMENT AGENCY 'BLACKLIST'

LD172049 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Washington, March 17 TASS -- Kenneth Adelman, President Reagan's appointee to the post of director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the White House together with him have been caught lying. Some time ago the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which held hearings on Adelman's candidature, heard him claiming that no reshuffle was planned in the agency.

The confidential documents, demanded by the committee members and at long last handed over by the administration, incontrovertibly show, however, that a large-scale "purge" was being planned in the agency, that Adelman knew about it perfectly well and that, moreover, he even took preliminary measure to get rid of the employees he did not want.

These documents include a "black list" handed over to Adelman with the names of the agency employees who were to be fired. The list contains the names of 18 people, including three high-ranking members of the U.S. delegation to the Soviet-American Geneva talks and even James George, the acting director of the agency. They were blamed either for advocating "progress" at the talks and an early agreement with the Soviet Union or for their "insufficiently anti-Soviet attitude". It was noted against every name, "must go."

At the same time the Reagan administration is going to staff the agency, whose duty is to work out policies on arms control and to submit appropriate recommendations to the President and U.S. delegates to Geneva, with figures like Adelman, who does not in the least conceal his adversary attitude to arms control in principle and even flaunts it.

In addition to the "black list", the press reports, the senators have got hold of a memorandum sent by Adelman to Under-Secretary of State Kenneth Dam. The memorandum, prepared on January 17, i.e., almost three weeks before the hearings at the committee, unequivocally indicates that Adelman had already ordered an investigation into the staff of the agency.

Whatever the outcome of this unseemly incident with the plans to "purge" the agency may be, observers view it as another unambiguous proof of the fact that Washington does not intend to conduct serious talks on arms control in Geneva and that it is trying to do everything possible to hold back this process and to get a free hand for the further buildup of its arsenals of deadly weapons.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

U.S. NUCLEAR WITHDRAWAL 'PROPAGANDA PLOY'

LD190640 Moscow TASS in English 0632 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- "The main aim of the opponents of peace today is to force new American nuclear weapons on Western Europe at any cost. And for the sake of this criminal striving they do not stop at any deception," the newspaper PRAVDA points out today.

Commenting on reports in a number of Western press media to the effect that the U.S. Administration is allegedly preparing to withdraw a certain number of nuclear warheads from the West European countries, the newspaper writes: "But in fact it has proved to be a fresh propaganda ploy."

In the first place, PRAVDA notes, it is planned to withdraw, as newspapers report, only "obsolete warheads, which even without that are to be phased out." Secondly, it has been learnt that new systems of weapons are now being shipped to Europe to replace those which are being taken out of there. But the point at issue proves to be not simply a replacement. As British journalist Peter Pringle, who stays in Washington, writes, according to the plans in effect for the production of nuclear warheads, there will be more warheads by the late eighties in Europe than early in this decade. The following fact has been learnt: Instead of eight-inch artillery shells, which were deployed in Western Europe way back in 1956, the Pentagon is planning to bring there.... American neutron weapons!

As the newspaper PRAVDA goes on to note, the press reports reveal another aspect of that operation of deception. As the London OBSERVER declares, this venture is aimed at "cushioning the blow" (against the West European public) as a result of the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, whose start, as is known, has been planned for December this year. The planned action, the newspaper explains, will be carried out in order to cut the ground from under the feet of the participants in the anti-nuclear movement.

"The nuclear war planners see that a powerful anti-war, anti-missile movement capable of destroying their plans is mounting in various countries, on all continents. 'The military party' is feverishly looking for a way of lulling the vigilance of the peoples," the newspaper PRAVDA stresses.

DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE HELD IN GENEVA

LD182237 Moscow TASS in English 2114 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva March 18 TASS -- An enlarged two-day meeting of the Coordination Committee on Disarmament has opened today at the building of the League of Red Cross Societies. Taking part in the work of the committee are more than 40 delegates from organisations, making the Coordination Committee -- the European Conference of War Veterans, the International Confederation of Former Prisoners of War, the International Federation of Resistance Movements, the World Federation of War Veterans. Among the participants in the meeting -- delegates from USA, France, Italy, USSR, Bulgaria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, GDR, Hungary and a number of other countries.

The Coordination Committee will discuss the course of negotiations on questions of disarmament. The delegates also intend to adopt an appeal to the delegations of the USA and USSR, conducting negotiations on Euromissiles and on limitation and reduction of strategic armaments, to prepare convocation of a symposium of war veterans on disarmament, security and cooperation in Europe.

REVIEW OF CEMA ECONOMIC PROGRESS FOR 1982

PM140945 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 10, Mar 83 (signed to press 28 Feb) p 19

["Review" by Candidate of Economic Sciences V. Andreyev, of the CEMA International Institute of the Economic Problems of the World Socialist System: "The CEMA Members' Economy in 1982"]

[Text] The CEMA members are consistently implementing the strategic course of their communist and workers' parties toward intensifying social production, accelerating scientific and technical progress, deepening economic cooperation and integration and ensuring on that basis the improvement of working people's material and cultural standards. The CEMA countries' achievements in these areas attest to the socialist system's indisputable advantages.

As emerges from the review of the capitalist economy in 1982 published in EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 9, the GNP of the industrially developed capitalist countries fell by approximately 1 percent last year in comparison with 1981, their industrial output fell by 4 percent, "trade wars" worsened among the capitalist world's main centers, the army of unemployed increased sharply, inflation rose and the populations' living standards declined. In 1982, the socialist community countries took a new step forward in many spheres of the economy and working people's social security and in the further improvement and development of their foreign economic relations.

Economic Growth

In comparison with 1981, national income -- the generalized indicator of economic development -- increased in 1982 (here and elsewhere according to preliminary figures) by 4 percent in Bulgaria, 1.5-2.0 percent in Hungary, 3 percent in the GDR, 2-2.5 percent (global social product) in Cuba, over 7 percent in Mongolia and 2.6 percent in Romania, and in the Soviet Union national income used for consumption and accumulation increased by 2.6 percent. In Czechoslovakia national income increased by KCS18.5 billion. Romania achieved positive results in modernizing the economy and raising the standard of economic development.

Industrial output, the basis of national income growth, increased in 1982, compared with 1981, by 4.6 percent in Bulgaria, 2 percent in Hungary, 3.2 percent in the GDR, 4.3 percent in Cuba, 10 percent in Mongolia, 1.1 percent in Romania, 2.8 percent in the USSR and 1 percent in the CSSR. In Poland, industrial output began to rise from last August.

Those sectors which ensure the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the raising of social production efficiency, primarily the fuel and energy sectors and the machine building, chemical and petrochemical industries, developed at preferential rates in the CEMA countries.

In Bulgaria, for example, power industry output, increased by 6.6 percent during the year while machine building and electronics output increased by 8.7 percent. In Hungary, machine building output increased by 3.7 percent with the greatest increase being in the output of machinery, equipment and instruments. In the GDR, high growth rates were achieved in machine tool and microelectronics production: The output of machine tools with digital control increased by 24 percent and of industrial robots by 100 percent. Machine building and metal working output has increased by 5 percent in the Soviet Union. In Czechoslovakia, electrical engineering industry output rose by 4.8 percent. In Poland in 1982 the extraction of coal increased by 16 percent and the production of ocean-going ships increased by 11.3 percent in comparison with 1981.

The consistent implementation of the program to strengthen agriculture's material-technical base and of land chemicalization and reclamation measures has made it possible to mitigate the adverse effect of weather in the CEMA countries in 1982.

In Bulgaria, arable output increased by 6.4 percent and livestock output by 3 percent. In Hungary, the indicators are equivalent to 6 percent and 4 percent respectively. In the GDR, 1 million tons of grain more than in 1981 were harvested and the highest-ever grain yield of 39.8 quintals per hectare was achieved. In Mongolia the state plan for increasing the livestock population was overfulfilled and over 550,000 tons of grain were harvested. Poland's gross agricultural output fell by 4 percent -- to a considerable degree because of the severe drought. Romania's gross agricultural output increased by 7.5 percent. In the Soviet Union, agricultural output increased by 4 percent. In the CSSR the increase was 1.1 percent.

Intensive Development Factors

The bulk of the increase in industrial output was achieved by increasing labor productivity. The implementation of measures to save material resources, improve output and introduce scientific and technical achievements into production has continued. Thus in Hungary, even with an increase in material production in all production sectors, energy consumption fell in comparison with 1981. In the GDR the proportionate expenditure of the important types of energy and raw and semifinished materials fell by over 6 percent and expenditure of the main materials for every 100 marks' worth of commodity output was reduced by 2.6 percent. On the basis of scientific and technical achievements and the introduction of inventions and rationalizers' proposals, over 500,000 tons of ideal fuel and raw and semifinished materials worth KCS4.7 billion were saved in the CSSR.

The CEMA countries directed considerable resources last year into constructing new installations and retooling and modernizing existing production capacities. Many hundreds of new shops, enterprises and combines were commissioned. In Bulgaria, the country's balance was increased as a result of the commissioning of the fourth 440-megawatt reactor at the "Kozludoy" nuclear power station, and the modernization of the chemical combine at Vratsa, capable of producing 100,000 tons of ammonia and 200,000 tons of carbamide was completed. In Cuba, a lubricants production plant, a fodder production plant and a citrus processing plant were commissioned. In Poland, working levels at the "Piast" and "Suszec" mines were commissioned. In Romania, about 570 industrial and agricultural and livestock installations were commissioned.

Investment cooperation, including the coordination of capital investments in various fields of economic development and the construction of certain installations through joint efforts, received further qualitative development. A large-scale agreement, unparalleled in world practice, on comprehensive specialization, production sharing and reciprocal supplies of equipment for nuclear power stations is being consistently implemented by the CEMA countries concerned.

The overall nuclear power station capacity in CEMA countries in 1982 exceeds 20 million kilowatts. Work on creating the next units for stations in Hungary, the GDR, the USSR and Czechoslovakia and constructing the first nuclear power stations in Cuba, Poland and Romania was carried out.

Successful economic development is enabling the CEMA countries to tackle major social tasks. In virtually all CEMA countries the population's real incomes rose, the volume of retail commodity turnover increased and working conditions, consumer services and housing conditions improved.

Deepening Integration

The CEMA countries' achievements are inextricably connected with the further extension and deepening of their economic integration. Last year, multilateral and bilateral meetings of fraternal party and state leaders were of great importance in consolidating our countries' unity and further consolidating their comprehensive collaboration. This course was ratified by the Prague meeting of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee in January 1983.

The CEMA countries' comprehensive cooperation in the area of material production is increasingly being oriented toward solving the major, top-priority problems of collaboration which help to provide the CEMA countries' economy with fuel, energy and raw materials, machines and equipment, agricultural and food industry products and consumer goods and promote the development of transport communications. The development and implementation of multilateral and bilateral agreements on measures for long-term targeted cooperation programs continued.

The 36th CEMA session (Budapest, June 1982) was a considerable step in solving the tasks of economic intensification. The CEMA countries are at present proceeding with work on coordinating national economic plans for the period 1986-1990. The Soviet Union and the European CEMA countries continued implementing long-term bilateral programs (general outlines) for specialization and production sharing in the field of material production until 1990. Assistance to Vietnam, Cuba and Mongolia on a bilateral and multilateral basis aimed at accelerating development and raising the efficiency of their economies continued to be given.

Direct links between ministries, associations and enterprises participating in cooperation are deepening. Czechoslovak enterprises, for example, on the basis of direct ties, are cooperating with Hungarian enterprises in producing small horticultural tractors with a full range of attachments. On the basis of appropriate agreements between enterprises, Czechoslovakia is producing the tractors and Hungary the attachments.

Although certain results in the field of developing direct cooperative ties have already been achieved, the results of such cooperation could be considerably greater. We still have to determine the forms of cooperation and participation which will create the conditions for comprehensive cooperation among CEMA countries' production sub-units at all stages of work and raise the technical and economic standard and quality of reciprocally supplied products.

Fraternal countries are studying and making use of each others' positive experience in organizing production and managing the economy in their own conditions. In Bulgaria and some other countries, for example, effective forms of agroindustrial cooperation have been introduced. Hungary and the GDR have accumulated experience in the efficient utilization of energy, fuel, raw materials and secondary resources.

The CEMA countries are exhibiting interest in Soviet experience: Bulgaria is introducing the team form of organizing and encouraging labor growth [as published], and the GDR is introducing the Saratov method for handing over output fault-free.

Foreign trade is playing a growing role in developing the CEMA countries' economies. Foreign trade in machines and equipment has developed at preferential rates in the majority of CEMA countries, which indicates the further deepening of international specialization and production sharing.

"All CEMA plans," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov emphasized at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum, "are plans for peace and socialism. We strive to ensure that comradesly cooperation and socialist aid become deeper and more effective, and this includes the joint solution of scientific and technical, production, transport, energy and other tasks."

BOGOMOLOV URGES USSR USE OF E. BLOC EXPERIENCE

PM151501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[Article by Academician O. Bogomolov: "Common Aspect: Exchange of Experience of Socialist Building"]

[Text] At their last congress the socialist countries' fraternal Marxist-Leninist parties summed up the results of the work done in the economic and sociopolitical spheres in the past decade and determined the main trends of future development. This process demonstrated the richness and variety of historical experience in building new forms of social life. Each country makes a contribution to the treasury of collective experience while simultaneously drawing from it the knowledge and lessons which are useful for it. The richer and more varied this experience is, the more preconditions there are for elaborating the most correct solutions to the ever larger and more complicated tasks of creating the new society.

The exchange of positive experience of socialist building and of the management of the economy and all social life today offers an important reserve of further successes for world socialism. This is why the appeal to learn from one another, using all that is best and not repeating errors, rang out with special strength and persuasiveness at the 26th CPSU Congress.

Real socialism, its economic base and its political superstructure are the result of collective creativity by the peoples of a large group of countries and the fruit of leading and organizing activity by their ruling Marxist-Leninist parties. It is shown by the practice of the socialist countries that the role of the Communist Parties in the leadership of all aspects of their socioeconomic development is increasing as the entire social and especially economic life of these countries becomes more developed and complicated and international links and relations acquire ever greater weight in it.

In the eighties this makes the further improvement of the political organization of society and especially the enhancement of the party's leading role exceptionally topical in all the fraternal countries.

The political system of socialism in these countries is by no means some kind of standardized mechanism and Soviet-style "model," as the enemies of socialism often depict it. In each socialist country the system has its own concrete historical peculiarities and its own specificity; it has, so to speak, its own national face.

Nevertheless, the national political system in each country contains, along with its own characteristics and peculiarities, also the general element **reflecting the international** traits of the new system and its fundamental principles and laws.

Among these laws are the development and strengthening of the democratic foundations of the socialist society. The experience accumulated in this sphere is a valuable collective asset. For instance, something that has been typical of recent times has been the fraternal parties' desire for the mutual study of experience of involving working people in the management and control of production, as well as of forms and methods of stepping up the activity of trade unions, as the broadest mass organization of working people. The role of trade unions in the drafting and fulfillment of national economic plans and in production organization is being enhanced in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the GDR and other socialist countries. At the same time, the trade unions are paying greater attention to protecting working people's interests and rights, to elaborating measures for improved labor remuneration and to other aspects of social policy.

Much is being done in the GDR, Cuba and other countries to develop the activeness of youth organizations, which help to involve the young generation in socialist building. A number of countries have adopted youth laws which determine young people's functions and role in the socialist society, as well as their rights and obligations.

The enemies of the new system do their utmost to hinder the work carried out in the socialist countries on the development and improvement of the political superstructure, on the ideological education of working people, on the strengthening of socialist morality and on the formation of the new man. On the hypocritical pretexts of "defense of human rights," Western ideologists and politicians try to interfere in the socialist states' internal affairs and hope to create in them the conditions for the consolidation of antisocialist forces and to ensure "freedom" for political and ideological subversion against socialism. But imperialist propaganda, realizing that the socialist countries' peoples will never grant this "freedom" to the enemies of socialism, proclaims the "absence of democracy" in the socialist states. In this way it hopes to deceive the gullible, discredit socialism and prevent the growth of its influence on the minds and hearts of working people in the nonsocialist part of the world.

The CPSU Central Committee report to the 26th Party Congress speaks of the valuable experience of a number of socialist community countries in the spheres of planned economic management and social development. Mention was made, in particular, of the skillfully organized work of agricultural cooperatives and enterprises in Hungary, the instructive experience in rationalizing production and saving raw and other materials in the GDR, and social security in Czechoslovakia. These examples do not, of course, exhaust everything that is valuable and interesting in today's practice of socialist building.

Special significance now attaches to experience in solving the complicated problems of switching the economy's to the tracks of intensive development. The comprehensive boosting of the efficiency and quality of work is the key to resolving the main task of the current 5-year plans in the Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries -- ensuring the working people's well-being.

Intensification presupposes substantial changes in both the economy's management mechanism and its sectorial structure and technical base. As a consequence of the interdependence of economic life, the desired changes can be achieved more successfully if the actions of individual countries are more coordinated. The reorganization of the economic management system, bolstered by measures to clarify and coordinate structural policy and growth strategy, is one of the main avenues of intensification.

The measures being taken in the CEMA countries to improve economic mechanisms share a number of common trends: The consolidation of centralized plan principles so as to safeguard the interests of the whole people and overcome narrow departmental and parochial tendencies; the expansion of financial autonomy principles in the activity of enterprises and associations and the intensification of the effect of economic regulators and normatives; the consistent implementation of the principle of remuneration in accordance with the quantity and quality of labor and its national economic results; the coordination of economic decisions with social ones; and the further development of socialist democracy in production and management.

At the same time, each country has its own peculiarities and the economic reforms differ in their depth, rate of implementation comprehensiveness and many concrete solutions. Their results have not yet had the due effect on overcoming the dissipation of capital investment and shortening the investment cycle, on accelerating technological progress and the introduction of its achievements and on increasing the competitiveness of output.

Insufficient improvements have also been achieved in most countries in the productivity of live labor and the saving of energy and raw and other materials. There is a lack of coordination in those elements of the reforms which directly influence the development of mutual cooperation and create interest in it. The search for more effective tools and methods of management continues and this process is constant and creative.

The improvement of economic management systems and their mutual interdependence [sopryazhennost] is an important precondition for the development of the CEMA countries' integration. So there is understandable interest in the collective discussion of these issues and in the exchange of experience of socialist economic management, which is becoming increasingly effective and intensive.

It is well known that the socialist states do not impose upon one another their own practice in structuring management and organizational relations within the economy. Nevertheless, the ever-deeper mutual study of this practice and the joint evaluation of collective experience helps in applying the proven general principles of socialist economic management to the specific conditions of individual countries. This also helps narrow the gap between the structures of economic management mechanisms, thus uncovering additional potential for the development of international production, scientific and technical cooperation.

Bourgeois propaganda is showing heightened interest in the measures being taken by the socialist countries to improve their economic management mechanisms. It is seeking to depict the expansion of enterprises' economic independence and the strengthening of principles of financial autonomy in the plan management of the national economy as almost a return to capitalist methods of economic management. The Western press is doing its utmost to set some socialist countries which are making broader use of financial autonomy regulators in opposition to others in which the correlation between centralism and democracy in management looks different because of specific conditions. Our class enemies are striving to exploit the perfectly natural differences in national economic management practice, which stem from the differing extent of countries' inclusion in the international division of labor, their historical peculiarities and traditions, the different levels of culture and discipline and their populations, the effectiveness of the control apparatus and so forth, in order to pursue a "differentiated" policy toward individual socialist countries and to attempt to disunite them. It can be confidently said that they will not gain any thing from these attempts.

The experience accumulated in the CEMA countries in improving economic mechanisms is in many respects instructive for the Soviet Union. First of all, I would like to point out that many new management ideas require careful experimental testing before they can be implemented in practice, especially on the scale of an enormous national economy such as the USSR's. From this viewpoint, the study of our CEMA partners' economic reforms enables us to draw extremely valuable conclusions and to reorganize with greater assurance of success the forms and methods of the plan management of the economy. A special interdepartmental council headed by the USSR Gosplan chairman has been set up for this purpose in the USSR.

In striving to expand the economic independence of enterprises and associations in the USSR while simultaneously strengthening statewide principles in management, we cannot overlook the positive results achieved in this direction by the GDR, Bulgaria and Hungary. Special interest is generated by the activity of combines in the GDR, which have become the central organizational unit in the economic mechanism bearing full responsibility for satisfying both domestic needs and export requirements for certain types of products and services.

Many important conclusions for improving financial autonomy relations in our industry can be drawn from studying the experience of labor remuneration, incentives for saving resources, price formation and credits in a number of fraternal countries.

The fulfillment of the Food Program adopted in our country also presupposes the creative application of all that is best in the practice of managing the agroindustrial complex in Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR and Czechoslovakia. As an example, the following points could be of interest to us.

First, the specific experience of expanding the independence of collective and state farms in the taking of plan decisions and granting them the real right to determine the structure and volume of production bearing in mind the farms' specific conditions and potential. [sentence as published] In a number of countries the plan targets for deliveries to the state of all or many types of agricultural output are conveyed to the appropriate departments and procurement organizations. In order to fulfill the targets, they conclude economic contracts with farms on a basis of equality and strict mutual responsibility. The results yielded by the development of subsidiary industrial production in agricultural enterprises in the fraternal countries are also important for us.

Second, our appropriate organs are showing attention to experience of switching all kinds of activity in the food sphere over to financial autonomy and self-support [samookupayemost], including the activity of purchase and supply marketing organizations. The experience of the community states allows a better revaluation of the role played in the strengthening of financially autonomous and contract relations by price formation that is in line with the principle of the equivalence of the commodity-money exchange and also takes into account the effect of the profit factor.

In addition one could mention the experience of the formation and functioning of agro-industrial combines and associations in Bulgaria, Hungary and other socialist countries. Thanks to industrial techniques and labor organization, they make it possible to attain high productivity in production and to minimize expenses and output losses.

The practice of developing personal subsidiary plots in the fraternal countries is also being carefully studied in the USSR as an important source for increasing food supplies which does not require major capital investment. The progress in developing personal subsidiary plots in Bulgaria and Hungary has been achieved thanks to an effective economic mechanism which includes a contractual system of relations between personal and public farms.

There is no need to list everything that we could find useful in the fraternal countries. One thing is clear: The study and utilization of the collective experience of socialist economic management is capable of saving the considerable time and resources expended in each country on the search for the optimum solutions for particular problems.

The activity of the Marxist-Leninist parties and socialist states is deliberately aimed at expanding the exchange of material and spiritual values between the peoples building the new life. As a result, collective experience is created and constantly accumulated which embodies, in V.I. Lenin's words, that "integral socialism" which results from "the cooperation between proletarians of all countries." The generalization of collective experience helps map out the correct course toward further strengthening and improving socialism as an international system.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

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["International Observers Roundtable" program with Igor Petrovich Belyayev, chief of the LITERATURNAYA GAZETA Foreign Affairs department; Vladlen Ivanovich Kuznetsov, international affairs journalist; and Vitaliy Sergeyevich Sobolev, all-union radio commentator]

CC Secretaries Meeting in Moscow

[Text] [Sobolev] Hellow, comrades. I would like to start our conversation today with an event that occurred at the beginning of last week. I am referring to the conference of secretaries of the central committees of the fraternal parties in the socialist countries, which was devoted to international and ideological issues. It was held for 2 days in Moscow. The participants had a friendly meeting with Comrade Andropov. The press published an announcement about the results of the conference, which evoked lively comment abroad.

[Kuznetsov] The participants noted with satisfaction that the peaceful initiatives recently undertaken by the socialist states have been met with considerable interest, understanding and support by the international workers' and liberation movements, most divergent layers of progressive public opinion, the antiwar movement and by the governments of many countries in the world. In the present complicated and troubled international situation, the Soviet Union and the other socialist states are doing as much as possible and necessary to put an end to tension, block the negative process in international development, and -- first and foremost -- put a halt to the arms race.

In this respect, one of the most important tasks is to overcome the deadlock and blind alleys at the talks being held on various aspects and problems of disarmament. Not long ago the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies proposed at the Vienna talks to end the argument which has been going on for 10 years now as to who has how many troops. This argument is meaningless. There is nothing to argue about because parity exists in Europe between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, as many authoritative sources have admitted. This argument, of course, was started by the NATO powers in order to prolong the talks as long as possible and foil the achievement of an agreement on reducing troops and armaments in central Europe. In order to achieve such an agreement, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are proposing a simple and clear solution: to reduce the armed forces of both sides to equal collective levels of 900,000 men -- regardless of the present number of troops.

At the Madrid meeting of representatives of the states participating in the all-European conference, the Soviet Union and other socialist states have been working toward a successful completion for this forum through a meaningful and constructive document that would be a worthy continuation of the Helsinki final agreement. They are working toward convening an all-European conference on confidence-building measures and disarmament in Europe.

At the current session of the Geneva Disarmament Committee, the Soviet Union and the other socialist states are energetically insisting on starting practical preparations for a whole range of documents -- on neutron weapons, on chemical weapons and so forth -- documents that, if adopted, would make it possible to contain the arms race in certain areas. Again in Geneva, on behalf of the socialist states and all peace-loving peoples, the Soviet Union is working actively and purposefully toward limiting and reducing the most terrible of weapons -- the intercontinental strategic forces and medium-range nuclear missiles.

It will soon be 3 months since the Warsaw Pact members proposed to the NATO countries that a treaty should be concluded on mutual nonuse of military force and maintaining peaceful relations. This proposal was received with understanding by wide sections of international public opinion. NATO, however, having initially promised to study the treaty proposal, has so far been in no hurry to respond.

In summation, esteemed radio listeners, it is possible to say that the Soviet Union and the other socialist states are able to face the peoples of the world with a clear conscience. At all international forums and rostrums -- in Geneva, Vienna and Madrid, and at the United Nations -- the socialist states are defending detente, peace and international security.

[Sobolev] At the conference of secretaries of the central committees of fraternal parties in Moscow it was noted that it is necessary to disseminate truthful and meaningful information about the life of socialist countries. Indeed, this life provides us with rich material and is of close concern to Soviet people.

The 35th anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Bulgarian Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance was marked at the end of last week. The telegram from the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers to the Bulgarian leaders says that this treaty laid a stable foundation for our political, economic and cultural cooperation. We are united in the struggle for peace and detente and proffer mutual assistance in the development of the national economy. According to a recently signed protocol, Soviet-Bulgarian trade turnover this year will be R10 billion. As everyone knows, in addition to various kinds of equipment, the lists include consumer goods. For instance, this year Soviet consumers will receive 200,000 more tons of vegetables, fruit and other agricultural products than in the past. Since 1945 the volume of trade between our countries has increased more than 80 times over.

Commentators Cite Marx, the Bible

I would also like to point out that the Moscow conference discussed events which mark the 165th anniversary of the birth and the 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx.

[Kuznetsov] The Moscow conference unanimously emphasized that Marxism-Leninism has been and remains the firm ideological foundation for correct and effective communist policies and for solving the new tasks arising in life. Few people are destined to continue their omnipresence in men's minds over many generations after their death. One hundred years after passing away, Karl Marx remains one of those people. No one has succeeded in disproving the historical correctness of the theory of the transformation of human society on the basis of social justice. History is developing according to Marx's predictions, not according to the opinions of those who have been trying to discredit him, overthrow him and declare him as belonging to the past over all these years. Marx is very much alive.

[Sobolev] We know that the proof of the truth is through experience. Experience has conclusively proved the truthfulness of Marxist teaching. Let me make the following comparison: This week the anniversary of the Paris Commune, and thus of the first proletarian revolution, was marked. This revolution suffered a defeat, but by the first quarter of the 20th century two states of workers and peasants had already appeared on the world map. Now there are 15 socialist countries, which are home to one-third of the world's population. In addition, about 20 states in Asia, Africa and Latin America have declared that they are moving over to a progressive path of socioeconomic development, rejecting capitalism as a form of social organization. This makes up about eight percent of the population of the developing world.

[Kuznetsov] Yes, the indestructible, eternal human desire for a just social order, equality and fraternity is coming to life and taking perceptible shape. This idea, which rejects capitalism, nevertheless exists in its midst. Here I quote DEUTSCHE WELLE radio, which said: The ideas of a communist classless society are popular among a considerable proportion of Western youth. Here is what THE NEW YORK TIMES writes: Marx and Marxism continue to exercise considerable influence over European thinking. Here I would add: and not just over European thinking, either.

It is impossible to ignore Marx, just as it is impossible to ignore the fact that he foresaw and foretold the socioeconomic crisis, the crying contrast between riches and poverty, the dole queues and the strike struggle in the capitalist world. The 30 million unemployed in the capitalist countries confirm the accusation that in his time Marx leveled at the capitalist world. Marx lives on in the struggle of those people that have already shaken off or are shaking off the yoke of colonial slavery.

About 100 states acquired freedom after the World War II. Marx also lives on the peoples' struggle for peace against war. Is it not to us, the generation of the nuclear missile age, that Karl Marx and his fellow champion Friedrich Engels address their appeal to make sure that -- here I quote -- progress should no longer be associated with the loathsome heathen idol who would only drink his nectar from the skulls of the dead.

[Belyayev] I think today we're justified in saying that 1983 is the year of Karl Marx. In the White House they preferred to declare 1983 the year of the Bible in the United States. Well, to each his own. As the saying goes: Render unto God that which is God's, and unto Caesar that which is Caesar's. Let us assume that even convinced Marxists would not object to the White House, the State Department and the Pentagon living and engaging in politics in accordance with the commandments of Holy Writ. One gets the impression that in Washington they sometimes think that we in the Soviet Union have no notion of the Bible, or of anything else that...

[Kuznetsov interrupts, speaking over Belyayev] that we don't know the Bible.

[Belyayev, continuing] ...relates to Holy Writ in the broad sense of the word. The conclusion is that many things convince us that the scriptures were not written for those who stand at the helm of U.S. policy today.

[Kuznetsov] Exactly.

[Belyayev] Remember Psalm 108: He had no thought of showing mercy, but persecuted a poor man, a beggar. His children wander as beggars and ask for bread from their ruins.

Twelve million Americans are out of work. Over 30 million are living on the verge of poverty. About 2 million homeless people wait in vain for charity from a President who is overflowing with religious sentiments. He's doing much the same as he was doing 6 months ago or a year ago -- cutting public expenditures and worsening the U.S. internal economic situation and its social problems. Let me quote from the Book of Job: Does the hawk fly by thy wisdom?

The hawks circle over the White House and the Pentagon while the master of the White House, without false modesty, calls his hawk-like policy pleasing to the Almighty. Also pleasing to the Almighty, perhaps, is the Pentagon's doctrine of all sorts of nuclear wars, from the limited to the prolonged.

Incidentally, just last week the number one news item was the information disclosed by the latest document from the Pentagon, which is entirely devoted to justifying the idea that it will be possible to survive a future nuclear war. What rubbish!

[Kuznetsov] And that the United States is certain to emerge as the victor.

[Belyayev] That's what Reagan and his political advisers are banking on, as it were. They want to convince ingenuous Americans that it is possible. What, then, of the commandment: Thou shalt not kill? Presumably the U.S. Catholic bishops are no less able than the pious President to discern what is pleasing to God and what is not. The national conference of Catholic bishops -- let me remind you -- on behalf of 50 million U.S. Catholics, declared in their draft pastoral message that the first use of nuclear weapons is immoral and nuclear war is mortal sin.

U.S. 'Stuck on Zero Option'

[Sobolev] In short, disarmament is fully in accord with the ideas expressed by the Bible. I want to return now to that problem, which, by the way, was also under discussion at the conference in Moscow. Recently in Western political circles and the press, the chorus of voices addressing Washington and insisting that the latter depart from the notorious zero option and take a step toward a more realistic position, has -- I would say -- been growing ever louder.

Having presented its proposal -- known to be unacceptable -- in the summer of 1981, the United States has since contributed nothing new at the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe. Yet 16 months have elapsed since the talks began -- as PRAVDA noted in an editorial about the fact that Washington is blocking the negotiations. The West Europe public, which is acquainted with the constructive position of the Soviet Union, also cannot fail to see this.

[Kuznetsov] Washington's delegation in Geneva, it must be said, is stuck on the zero option it put forward at the very beginning of the talks. What this option amounts to, as has been said here already, is well-known: The Soviet Union must reduce its medium-range missile potential to complete zero, while the U.S. nuclear-missile potential, which is today aimed at the Soviet Union and European bridgeheads, must remain totally intact. Official Washington is insisting upon its unreasonable zero option almost as an ultimatum: Accept it, and the matter is settled. But if you do not accept it, there will be no agreement. That's more or less what they're saying. The U.S. delegation in Geneva is stubbornly insisting on absurd demands, and stipulating prior conditions that are equally nonsensical.

Washington, you see, doesn't wish its forward-based nuclear weapons -- hundreds of aircraft based in Europe and on aircraft carriers off the coasts of Europe -- to be counted. But how can the Soviet Union possibly disregard this serious threat to its security? You see, Washington doesn't want all the medium-range armaments actually existing in Europe to be taken into account -- above all the British and French weapons. But, after all, these weapons are most certainly not targeted on Washington.

A further demand is that the Soviet Union, if it reduces the number of its missiles in the European part of the USSR, should not dare to transfer those missiles to the Asian part. But the Geneva talks are not about the problems of security in Asia. So what do they want? In all probability, what Washington would like is that there should be no counterbalance of any kind to their missiles -- the American missiles -- either in Europe or in Asia. Yet, at this very time, reports are coming in that the Pentagon is not thinking of deploying its cruise missiles not only in the West European bridgeheads, but also in Japan and South Korea. Washington's position -- the position of Reagan's zero option -- is so vulnerable that it's a cause of embarrassment even in NATO circles. The allies are almost vying with each other to demand flexibility from the White House. What is the significance of this? What it signifies is tacit recognition of the sterility and hopelessness of the American zero option.

[Sobolev] I think we should add here that according to the U.S. press, an inevitable clash is lurking between the White House and the House of Representatives in Congress, where the resolution on freezing nuclear arsenals is being debated. The resolution demands that such a freeze should be the subject of talks between the Soviet Union and the United States, rather than a mere verbal pronouncement. In the House Foreign Relations Committee, the resolution has already been approved -- by 27 votes to 9 -- and the speaker of the House feels that the House itself will adopt the resolution by a majority of 50. Republican attempts to emasculate the contents of the resolution by means of amendments were rejected this week.

[Belyayev] And recently -- just a few days ago, in fact -- two senators and two congressmen wrote to the editor of the estimable NEW YORK TIMES. The senators and the congressmen wrote: You assert that a disproportion in number and quality of nuclear armaments may be dangerous. We agree as follows: At the present time, the United States has, overall, achieved nuclear parity with the Soviet Union; a freeze of armaments will enable us to prevent any serious disproportion from arising in the future.

This, it must be said, is a sober-minded attitude. The senators and congressmen issued a reminder that all the White House rhetoric boils down to burying all the calculations in casuistry, that parity is a fait accompli, and that it is necessary to seek agreement on the basis of that parity. And they end their letter with what, to me, is a most impressive passage. They say: Let us try to reach agreement while there is yet time. And that, I think, is the main point of their letter -- that we must not waste time, and that we must really approach the problem from a very sober standpoint so the Geneva talks may be brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

Middle East Situation

[Sobolev] And now, comrades, I think we should turn to the situation in the Near East. The worsening of tension there continues to be largely determined by Israel's occupation of Lebanon. And the diplomatic activity going on around this whole problem far from induces a mood of reassurance. At the same time, Washington pretends to be striving to moderate its partner's appetites -- putting on the mask of a false friend of Lebanon. Israel is playing the accompaniment to this: It bases its demand for permanent control of southern Lebanon on the claim that the Lebanese have a weak army. The United States says it is willing to help out with its own forces. It is not very cunning, but it is practical from the point of view of imperialism and Zionism.

[Belyayev] What we are now observing is not just some sort of game. By dragging out the talks between Israel and Lebanon, the Americans intend to consolidate their military presence in that part of the Near East. Shamir is just back from his talks in Washington with George Shultz and certain other American politicians. Do you think they are suggesting that the Israeli troops should pull out of Lebanon? No. That question does not appear at all, as it were, on the agenda of the conversations about the talks with Lebanon.

The aim is for the Israeli military presence, on which the Israelis insisted from the very start, to be now called a joint U.S.-Israeli presence. This is precisely what the United States wanted. This week the magazine AFRIQUE-ASIE, which is published in Paris, published some rather interesting material on Israel's far-reaching plans. The thing is that not only are the Israelis preparing a preventive strike, or, as Moshe Arens, the new defense minister, now says, a prophylactic strike against Syria, meaning the destruction of the anti-aircraft defense installations that have been developed exclusively for the defense of Syrian territory and are not used as offensive weapons.

[Kuznetsov] Thus we see Reagan's so-called peace plan for the Near East in action.

[Belyayev] And now the Israelis are talking about attacking Syria, about carrying out a strike against Jordan in order to finally solve the Palestinian problem there at the expense, so to speak, of the Hashemite Kingdom. And now they are already openly talking about making an expedition to Kuwait, an expedition across Saudi territory. Israel wants to force the Arabs to share with Israel their oil revenues and the oil that is extracted in the Persian Gulf. This is because Israel's economic situation is in monstrously bad shape. This is not just due to the expense incurred by the very long war in Lebanon. The Israeli economy is in fact chronically sick because the country has the highest rate of inflation, an extraordinarily high cost of living, and because income and expenditure are not balanced.

This you can see if you take the situation in Israel over just the past 10 years and analyze it. The country needs an inflow, and a constant inflow, of money. The United States does not provide a great deal in economic aid -- in military aid, yes, the credits provided are unlimited -- but as far as economic aid is concerned the Americans are not too generous. Certain people -- specifically I have in mind Begin and now Moshe Arens and Moshe Levi, -- want the Arabs to agree to pay Israel an indemnity so it will not wage prophylactic wars against them.

[Kuznetsov] In other words, Israel would like the payment of tribute from the Arabs.

[Belyayev] And it wants to live at the Arabs' expense.

[Sobolev] There is something else I would like to turn our attention to. A curious phenomenon seems to have appeared in the Near East. As we know, President Carter succeeded in tying a major Arab country, Egypt, to the Washington-Tel Aviv axis. The information in the press now, however, is that not everything is going well in relations between the Camp David participants, and that Egypt has moved away from Israel and is moving closer to the Arab world.

[Belyayev] Egyptian-Israeli relations are almost at rock bottom. This goes for trade, cultural links, tourist links...

[Sobolev interrupts] And even on the diplomatic level.

[Belyayev] Yes. The Israeli ambassador complains that he is not invited to receptions or allowed to speak on Cairo radio. He feels completely isolated in the Egyptian capital. Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, often says that this is the result of Israel's longest war, in Lebanon, and that the crimes committed in the camps of Sabra and Shatila have alienated Egypt even from the Camp David process.

[Sobolev] In other words, while the Camp David deal untied Israel's hands allowing it to carry out aggression against Lebanon, this aggression in fact backfired by breaking the Camp David alliance.

[Belyayev] Here we must be careful. The Egyptians that I have spoken to often stressed that through Camp David Sinai was actually returned to them, so in practice they do not speak out openly against Camp David. But de facto -- I have in mind Egypt's relations with Israel and its relations with the United States in which Egypt is more and more often demanding, so to speak, that the Arab demands be satisfied -- these are also evident facts.

Egypt also has its inconsistencies. It does not formulate very clearly its attitude to the Palestinian problem. Its actions are not very clear when it comes to relations with such countries as Libya and Syria. In other words, these whole developments are not very clear. But the main thing is that the trend in the Arab world now is such that Egypt is moving away from the firm alliance with Israel that was engendered by the Camp David deal. And in this sense the Arabs can see some positive signs in Egypt's Arab policy **and its foreign policy** -- although, I repeat, it is still a long way to go before the ideal situation where Egypt would act jointly with the Arabs against Israeli diktat and against U.S. policy in the Near East. Still, I think that in the very near future we will witness what draws Egypt closer to the Arabs, and not what separates them. In this connection, I think that the statements that have been made by Egyptian politicians and the Egyptian press on the need to normalize relations with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are signs of the very same process.

U.S. Policy on El Salvador

[Sobolev] Turning to events in Central America, I would like to dwell on Washington's program of military and civilian action, as they call it there, for El Salvador.

The need for this arose because -- as is the general opinion, particularly in the United States and including President Reagan himself, things are moving toward a victory for the patriots. Some experts say it will be 4 months, others say 6 months, yet others say it will be longer. However the only thing they differ on is the period of time it will take. Interestingly the U.S. press admits that the detachments of the Farabundo Marti Front are armed mainly with captured weapons, and that the dictatorship soldiers sell on the black market the weapons that are supplied by the United States and Israel. Other examples, too, are given of the demoralization of the government forces.

To put things right, Reagan intends to expand U.S. interference and has asked Congress for another \$110 million for this purpose. It should be noted that about \$400 million has already been allocated this year for the dictatorship. Now yet another considerable sum is to be thrown into this bottomless sack.

As far as the military part of the program is concerned, it contains nothing new: just another offensive to dislodge the patriots from their positions. In addition, however, the United States plans to cut the civilian population off from the rebels. This will be difficult, to say the least, THE NEW YORK TIMES notes sadly. The picture will look roughly like this. First the air force showers a village with bombs and rockets. Then the soldiers come to shoot all those left alive and burn their shacks. Finally, along come the instructors that Washington is promising to try to convince those who managed to save themselves by escaping into the forest that -- and here I quote -- The army is a positive force in their lives, The instructors will prevent the remaining population from having any contacts with the rebels and will work with them to provide economic development. U.S. observers are unanimous in calling this a repetition of the Vietnam experience.

[Kuznetsov] It is most appropriate to recall here, Vitaliy Sergeyevich, for our listeners that this week saw the 15th anniversary of one of the crimes of the century -- the bloody evil deeds by the Pentagon military in the Vietnamese village of Songmy.

[Sobolev] And that experience has been repeated on more than one occasion in El Salvador, and the new millions of dollars, the new weapons and new instructors are the dark heralds of more villages like Songmy in El Salvador. Hinton, the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, said on the matter: I do not know too much about Vietnam, but the doctrine on which the approach to the fight with these rebel movements is based is applicable, with certain variations, to any country. Evidently this doctrine includes the sort of total devastation which happened in Songmy. However, as one Salvadoran figure quoted by the U.S. newspapers said, the United States may give \$60 million or \$600 million worth of military aid, but the effect of this on the operations will be minimal. The U.S. ruling clique naturally includes no one in sympathy with the patriots' cause, but even among them there is a very widespread opinion of White House policy which senator and former astronaut John Glenn, now a presidential candidate, expressed as follows: It is an erroneous and dangerous policy.

At this point, comrades, we end our program. Thank you for listening and goodbye.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION -- QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

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["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Yevgeniy Kachanov, foreign-political commentator of all-union radio, with Igor Petrovich Belyayev, international affairs journalist; Eduard Vasilyevich Kovalev, international affairs journalist; and Konstantin Ivanovich Semenov, candidate of history]

[Excerpts] [Kachanov] Our listeners are interested in the activity of reactionary think tanks which serve the aggressive policy of the U.S. Administration.

This question is asked by Aleksandra Nikolayevna Gordeyeva from Moscow, Stepan Diatlov from Simferopol, and a number of other comrades. We asked candidate of history Semenov to have a look at these letters. Konstantin Ivanovich?

U.S. Think Tanks

[Semenov] It is well known that political science has long been used in the United States to elaborate aggressive doctrines.

[Kachanov] The sinister activity of such organizations as the Rand Corporation, the Brookings Institute, the Hudson Institute, and such figures as Rostow, Kahn, and Brzezinski have frequently been unmasked in our scholastic and political literature.

[Semenov] Yes, Yevgeniy Viktorovich. And their pernicious role is apparent. All of these suppliers of ideas, foreign political scenarios, conceptions and strategies of action of U.S. imperialism in the international arena are doing dangerous and harmful work. Their main characteristic feature is an obtuse and savage hatred of socialism. Their aim is to provide justification for saying that imperialism is capable of playing over again the history of the 20th century.

The reactionary think tanks and brain trusts are particularly assiduous today in demonstrating in their elaborations that the policy of severe pressure and threat of war holds a promise for imperialism of strategic gains in the struggle against the USSR and the entire socialist community.

In the post-war decades, the influence of reactionary think tanks on the real policy of the United States has been varied. Some presidents did not pay much attention to the advocates of crusades against socialism. Others were prepared to consider them to be harmful for speaking so openly.

[Kachanov] Well, with the attitudes now dominant in Washington, the screams of the hawks are now probably particularly audible?

[Semenov] Yes, and the hawks of political science have such great prestige with the Reagan administration because they are able to equip these attitudes with ideas and recipes which inflame imperial appetites. Among the brain trusts working for the U.S. Administration, some people have come to the forefront recently who are grouped around the U.S. secretary of defense, Caspar Weinberger. They are possessed with the mad idea of creating a strategy which allegedly guarantees the United States not only survival in a limited or even in a total nuclear war, but victory in such a war. This mad idea is particularly dangerous because of the intensive planning of a nuclear conflict according to all the rules of science. For example, they are calculating how to strengthen missile silos or how to make communications channels safe so they can withstand the consequences of nuclear explosions. Losses among the civilian population are being planned. According to these plans, the United States should be able to withstand the death of up to 150 million Americans.

[Kachanov] You mentioned a group of people. Who are these people?

[Semenov] Swiss by birth. He worked in the Rand Corporation on the social consequences of nuclear bombing. Now he has become the main elaborator of ideas for his boss, Weinberger. He is responsible, for example, for drafting the defense guidance 1984-6 directive which served as the basis for Reagan's armaments program costing \$1.6 trillion dollars. Before taking his present post, he was responsible for suggesting the idea of Euromissiles to the Schmidt government. Finally, he is responsible for the fury with which Weinberger fought against the gas-pipes deal. Fred Ikle put his boss into the struggle against firms which supplied our country with equipment for the gas pipeline -- a struggle which, as is known, ended in shameful defeat.

Fred Ikle is head of a group of superhawks nicknamed war-planners in the Pentagon, or simply warriors. Among them is Richard Perle, who is responsible for international security policy. He made the statement that the West German antiwar movement was allegedly created by protestant pastors in order to fill empty churches. Another of the warriors is John Lehman, secretary of the Navy. Nine years ago, together with Perle, he tried -- unsuccessfully, by the way -- to convince President Ford to reject the Salt-1 Treaty and the Vladivostok understanding. A match for these three is the fourth member of the group, Francis West, nicknamed (Bing). (Bing) West is concerned with the Rapid Deployment Forces and the problem -- as the Americans call it -- of reviving the NATO central front. West's idea is to get agreement from the European NATO members on conducting offensive operations if -- and I quote -- vital interests of the United States in the Arab East and in Asia are affected.

[Kachanov] Konstantin Ivanovich, you have already mentioned that Weinberger was let down by his bellicose advisers on the question of economic sanctions against West European countries trading with the USSR. How does the activity of these advisers affect Weinberger's prestige in the United States itself?

[Semenov] THE WALL STREET JOURNAL now calls Weinberger the champion of the hard line in a government which is, itself, fairly hardline. Other organs of the press express this less diplomatically. For example, THE WASHINGTON POST writes that he is the most contentious figure in Washington. And Weinberger himself once said to one of his friends: I probably give the impression of being rather mad. Weinberger's stock has fallen to a very low level in the U.S. Senate. Congressmen say this man arouses antipathy. Senator Ernest Hollings says directly: Americans now fear not the USSR, but Weinberger. They do not fear what Andropov says.

It must be said, Yevgeniy Victorovich, that the U.S. secretary of defense has done quite a lot himself to cause the drop in his prestige. But much, very much, has been added to this by the advisers from the think tank who supply their boss with madder and madder ideas whose doubtfulness is beginning to alarm U.S. public opinion.

[Kachanov] Thank you, Konstantin Ivanovich.

Disturbances in Assam

Leonid Vasilyevich Yefremov from Kashin in Kalinin Oblast, asks: What has been going on in the Indian state of Assam? What were the reasons for the dramatic events there, which had such dire consequences? Our listener has in mind the flare-up of tension and violence in Assam which began in early February and continues to this day. The occasion for this was the elections to the local legislative assembly 14-20 February, and not so much the elections themselves as the fact that the so-called foreigners, as the Assam nationalists call those who came more than 10 years ago from other parts of India and also from Nepal and Bangladesh, were permitted to take part.

There is a reason for the disturbances in Assam which has no connection at all with the economy. I have in mind the activities of foreign intelligence services, primarily the U.S. CIA. The special services direct the activities of certain nationalist groups, supply them with subversive literature, much printing machinery for printing leaflets, and even small arms. The ultimate aim of the intelligence service across the ocean is to implement the so-called Brahmaputra plan, which has been reported in our press. Let us briefly recall that this plan is intended to lead to the detachment from India of its seven northeast states, which are very important strategically, and the creation there of a formally independent state under Washington's auspices. To this end, use is made of nationality, caste and religious contradictions, armed bands are created, and separatist anti-Indian feelings are encouraged. The real way out of the situation which has come about -- I am now replying to a letter from Comrade Mamedov of Ashkhabad -- as the progressive Indian press has repeatedly pointed out, lies in the rapid implementation in Assam and other northeastern states of an urgent program of socioeconomic transformations, the creation of conditions in which local and external reaction cannot operate effectively.

Middle East Issues

Now for some questions on the Near East. Comrade Yefremov of Voroshilovgrad asks: Why did the Lebanese forces not offer resistance to the Israelis during last year's aggression? I ask Dr of Economics Igor Petrovich Belyayev to answer this question.

[Belyayev] Yevgeniy Viktorovich, there is a very simple, single answer to this question. The point is that during the years of the civil war, 1975-76, the Lebanese Army ceased to exist -- it disintegrated. In Lebanon, as a multireligious state, the Army, too, was formed on a multireligious basis. And in conditions in which right wing and left wing, Muslims and Christians, clashed with each other in an attempt to solve the most acute internal social and political problems by force of arms, the Army, of course, could not stand on one side, and in 1976 it ceased to exist. Attempts were made in 1978-80 to revive the Army in Lebanon. These attempts did produce some results, but not enough to fully restore the Lebanese Army. And we realized with regret in 1982 that it had not by then become a factor which could play any sort of role in defense of Lebanon's border's, the republic's borders. One might say that today it is rather playing the role of a security force which is mainly concerned with maintaining order within the country, and that only on the territory which is not occupied by Israel or by the Syrian forces.

[Kachanov] That is to say, it has police functions?

[Belyayev] In effect, yes.

[Kachanov] Mikhail Sergeyevich Masko of Sumy Oblast asks if the Israeli forces will withdraw from Lebanon.

[Belyayev] It seems to me Israel does not intend to leave the territory of Lebanon if one takes account of the fact that we saw something unusual on the eve of the war which began last June. Representatives of the Israeli Government and the Israeli Army said openly that they would soon be starting a war -- that is, everything they said they would do, they went ahead and did. So, bearing this in mind, one cannot ignore another collection of statements. I have in mind in particular a statement by Oded Yinon, formerly a highly placed official in the Israeli Foreign Ministry. In a very long article in one of the Israeli papers published in Hebrew, he openly said Lebanon should be dismembered into four or five states, and that after Lebanon the same fate awaits other Arab countries -- Syria, Iraq, Egypt. So, if one imagines that this plan is already being implemented, it seems to me Israel will not leave Lebanon, not in the next few years at least. Proof of this, perhaps, is that bands of the mercenary Haddad were recently brought to Sidon by the Israelis, and his headquarters is now in this large town, Sidon, in southern Lebanon. I think it is not by chance that Begin unleashed Haddad. And even if the question of Israeli withdrawal does arise, I think they will certainly not withdraw any further south than Sidon. Well, we shall just have to wait and see, as they say.

[Kachanov] Comrade Chernogalov of Gorkiy Oblast asks: In the Near East there is a so-called multinational force for the maintenance of peace in Lebanon. Tell me please, he writes, what are the tasks and aims of this force? How many contingents are there? How are they equipped? What countries do they come from? Who commands them? And why does this force not maintain peace in Lebanon?

[Belyayev] This multinational force appeared after the beginning of Israel's longest war against Lebanon in June 1982. It consists of contingents from France, Italy, and the United States. A British contingent also recently joined the force. So there are three West European states and the United States now acting as countries which, so to speak, detach their units to take part in this multinational force.

The UN Security Council and other organs of the international community had no part in creating the multinational force. The force was created on the basis of appeals and requests by the Lebanese Government to specific countries to send army units -- thus the interrelationship of these multinational forces. They are not so large in their composition, although the Lebanese Government, as has been indicated, has already come to the conclusion that in order to make Israel leave southern Lebanon, it is necessary to bring the numbers of the multinational force up to 15,000 men. And it seems to me that in practice, under the flag of participation in the multinational force, the United States has begun to establish its military presence in Lebanon.

There is one point about the U.S. contingent in the multinational force: It consists entirely of Marines and is based on 12 naval assault craft -- that is, all the equipment -- combat equipment, technical equipment, food supplies -- passes through these craft. But as soon as infantry appear in the multinational force -- and things are moving that way -- then I think the qualitative nature of the multinational force itself and the American units forming part of it will change. In the event of the multinational force [as heard] beginning to disembark [vysazhivatsya] onto Lebanese territory, it will make use of all these bridgeheads now being prepared by the Marines on Lebanese territory.

But on the other hand, there is pressure within the United States not to repeat the sorry experience of Vietnam where it all began with military advisers and then came to the regular U.S. Army taking part in a war against Vietnam and the Vietnamese people. And so the Americans, including some congressmen and senators, are now sounding the alarm, asking why American soldiers are now on Lebanese territory. And in order to pacify them, Reagan and Weinberger are saying: Well, our Marines are not directly responsible to the Pentagon, and they do not form part of the Rapid Deployment Force. So, briefly, they are in fact continuing the game, preparing to establish their military presence in this part of the Near East.

[Kachanov] Igor Petrovich, there have recently been many press reports of the propaganda campaign being waged by Israel and Washington against Syria. What is behind this campaign?

[Belyayev] This campaign, I would say, is being waged on a number of levels. First, they want to intimidate Syria and make it give up its attempt to strengthen its defensive capability. After all, what is it about? Syria has deployed new antiaircraft missile complexes on its territory, and these are what one can call purely defensive weapons. And alarm has been raised in connection with this. In Israel they have been shouting that there is a threat to the existence of the Israeli state, and the United States has joined in this anti-Syrian campaign saying that Syria is virtually provoking a change in the balance of strategic forces in the Near East. It seems to me that Begin and President Reagan are each solving their own tasks.

Now there is a new defense minister sitting in the Israeli Cabinet in place of Sharon. His name is Moshe Arens. It is not by chance that he has come to head the military department in Israel -- he is nicknamed Mr Nuclear Bomb. He wants Israel to have a nuclear confrontation with the Arab states. It is known from press reports that Israel already has atomic bombs. We shall not try to count how many of them. The Arab countries do not have atomic weapons. And on this basis, Moshe Arens believes he can solve, if you like, all the territorial, political and other problems existing between Israel and the Arab states.

If one speaks of the United States, in this case, it seems to me that President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz, like Secretary of Defense Weinberger, are pursuing far-reaching aims. First, they are working for the prostration of Arab oil-producers. Syria acts as defender of Arab national interests, as a country which is not afraid of confrontation with Israel and which stands against military pressure from Israel and the United States. In the event of a strike delivered against Syria, such states as Saudi Arabia, the Persian Gulf countries as a whole, would be defenseless in the face of pressure from Israel and the United States, and would have to capitulate. What would this mean in practice?

In October 1973, almost 10 years ago, you will recall that the first rise in oil prices took place -- very painful and remarkable. Now the United States, like the West European developed countries, is striving for a reduction in the price of oil, if only by 30 percent. Why 30 percent particularly? American and West European economists feel that this would at once reduce inflation. As a result of reduction in oil consumption, as a result of the appearance of new oil producers -- Mexico and certain other countries -- as a result of the introduction of new production methods on the basis of the latest technology -- in the United States, for instance, they are now making cars which only consume half as much gasoline per 100 kilometers than 10 years ago -- In connection with all this, the consumption of oil in the capitalist world has fallen. And the United States wants to squeeze the Arab oil producers in order to extract from them a considerable reduction in the price of oil and oil products. That is one task.

The second task is now, by taming Syria, to create the impression that President Reagan has won a second military victory in a row. What victories are these? A few weeks ago, as you remember, the United States quite unexpectedly for everyone began a scandalous military campaign against Libya. Threats were hurled at that Arab country, naval vessels of the U.S. Sixth Fleet appeared in the Gulf of Sidra, and so on and so forth. And the U.S. press presented all this military campaign as a success, a victory, for Reagan. And now, if a second so-called Reagan victory is achieved, this should pave the way for the current President of the United States to officially consent to his candidature for a second term, for reelection as President of the United States.

And it seems to me that the Near East has again become a field for these dirty politics, that for the achievement of these gutter-politics aims, a campaign is being waged against the independent Arab states. Israel's pressure is not enough. The United States, too, is beginning to exert pressure on Syria together with Israel, and thus they want to force Damascus to capitulate, to give up the idea of strengthening its defensive capability. But the Syrian leadership is sticking to its guns. It has not only deployed the new defensive antiaircraft missile complexes, but declares openly that it will not give way to any pressure and will defend its country's borders, and consequently will support that which, in the final analysis, is the concern of all Arab countries, namely, its national dignity, its territorial integrity, and defence of its independence.

[Kachanov] Thank you, Igor Petrovich.

Situation in Spain

Many of our listeners including Peter Ivanovich Fedorov from Moscow; Uliyskov from Pobeda Kolkhoz, Kumsangir Rayon, the Tajik SSR; Boris Andreyevich Zhilkin from Srednevorovtsev, Kursk Oblast; and many others, enquire about the situation in Spain. Eduard Vasiliyevich Kovalev, journalist on international affairs, will reply to your questions, esteemed comrades.

[Kovalev] Most Spaniards recognize that the Gonzalez government has been acting in the right direction. There is evidence of this in the results of many opinion polls. Among the government's acts which have received approval are a whole range of economic measures. For example, the recent nationalization of the major Rumasa concern, certain socioeconomic measures and also some foreign policy steps. Among these are the freeze on entry into NATO's military organization, refusal to participate in the session of the NATO nuclear planning group, to which Spain only sent an observer, and the new policy with regard to Gibraltar.

The first steps of the socialist government in the international arena also aroused great interest. It is well known that in their election program the socialists said they would come out for strengthening peace and security, for ending the arms race and expanding international cooperation. They also gave assurances that they would adhere to the principle of maintaining a nuclear-free zone on Spanish territory and would ratify the treaty of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. However, it must be said that as yet none of this has been done.

Well, on one hand one can justify the socialists here because they have had little time for this. On the other hand -- and we can dwell on this later -- on the other hand one can observe intense pressure on the Spanish Government and on Spain from its NATO allies and particularly from the United States.

[Kachanov] Thank you, Eduard Vasiliyevich. I think we will return to this question in our next program.

'INTERNATIONAL REVIEW' OF THIRD WORLD, MIDEAST

PM181125 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[Sergey Losev "International Review": "Diktat Instead of Aid"]

[Text] On the eve of the Delhi conference of heads of state and government of nonaligned countries the present U.S. Administration put forward an utterly cynical program of imperial aspirations. Speaking in Atlanta, the U.S. secretary of state made it plain that Washington still sees the developing countries as a source of cheap, primarily strategic, raw material, as an extensive market for its own goods and capital investments, and as a bridgehead for the Pentagon. "Many of our citizens," G. Shultz complained, "still believe that the developing countries take second place to our main interests. But in the past two decades these countries have come increasingly to the forefront.... In 1980 the developing countries bought 40 percent of U.S. exports. At the same time, they supply approximately 40-50 percent of the goods and raw materials which the United States imports for its own factories, plants and consumers."

According to the data cited by Shultz, the United States is getting more than 50 percent of the bauxites, tin and cobalt it needs from the developing countries.

The United States wants the countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Near East to perform the unenviable role of the West's private domain, where the chief law, according to the Yankees, would be U.S. imperialist diktat. It is to safeguard this diktat that Washington is currently accelerating the setting up of the "Rapid Deployment Force" and has established the notorious "Central Command" (Centcom) to direct interventionist operations. Obviously the secretary of state's menacing reminder that the United States has sent its forces to the developing countries on at least 185 occasions since World War II was no accident. "The United States," Shultz asserted, "cannot protect its interests merely by operating from the territory of the United States or Europe. We need cooperation with the countries of the 'Third World' in order to acquire the right to set up bases (!). Otherwise, however much we might want to build up the Rapid Deployment Force we will simply be unable to deploy it...."

Recently the White House has gotten into the habit of extraordinarily casually declaring regions tens of thousands of miles from the United States to be spheres of U.S. interests. Small wonder, then, that Shultz declared the Near East and the Persian Gulf a region "of vital importance as far as U.S. security is concerned" solely on the grounds that around 32 percent of the oil consumed by Western countries is produced there. The lion's share of the revenue from this oil continues to find its way into the bottomless safes of the "seven sisters" -- the big five U.S. oil monopolies and two West European oil concerns.

He insisted that the U.S. Administration's most important goal in the Near East was the "establishment of peace." But the infamous "Camp David process" has nothing in common with the establishment of lasting peace. Its purpose is to split and disunite the Arabs in order to deprive them of the opportunity to counter the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance.

The Lebanese tragedy has shown what this American-style "peace" is like. For more than 6 months Israeli forces have been occupying nearly one-half of Lebanon. The aggressor is lording it in the southern and central parts of this sovereign state; he is crudely interfering in its internal affairs, blackmailing the Lebanese authorities and trying to dictate capitulation terms. Basically, Tel Aviv, on the pretext of safeguarding its own security, wants to retain a military presence in Lebanon and to tie this Arab country to itself, in particular economically. This is the quintessence of the Israeli position at the current talks with Lebanon.

The Pentagon is pursuing a parallel policy of building up the U.S. military-political presence in Lebanon under the flag of the multinational force. On sending the U.S. military contingent to Lebanon, the U.S. President gave assurances that it would pull out not later than the end of 1982. In fact, the U.S. forces intend to establish themselves in Lebanon in earnest and for a long period. In this case we are talking not about a few hundred soldiers but about tens of thousands of U.S. Marines. Furthermore, the White House head recently stated that he can no longer give a definite date for the withdrawal of the troop contingent. More and more areas of Lebanese territory are coming under the control of the U.S. Marines. The true aims of Israeli aggression against Lebanon, prepared and carried out with the complicity of the United States, are thus beginning to assume a more and more definite shape. The primary goal is to ensure conditions for further Israeli expansion and the creation of yet another U.S. "Rapid Deployment Force" base on Lebanese soil.

In order to confuse Arab public opinion, the White House and the Begin government occasionally put on a scripted show of "discord and friction" between the United States and Israel. U.S. propaganda deliberately dramatizes reports of contact between Israeli troops in Lebanon and U.S. Marines -- as if the Arabs are suddenly going to start believing that the U.S. Administration is protecting Arab interests. Periodically Washington "condemns" the policy of creating a network of militarized Israeli settlements on occupied Arab land.

Meanwhile, Israeli bulldozers continue to sweep Arab villages off the map. Prior to his March trip to Washington Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir brazenly stated that "under no circumstances will Israel agree to consider the question of a freeze on the establishment of Israeli settlements in the West Bank of the Jordan if King Husayn of Jordan makes this demand as a preliminary condition for Jordan's joining in the Near East talks."

The Arab world has noticed a curious distribution of roles between the United States and Israel. What does it comprise? Tel Aviv stops at nothing, making the most brutal annexationist demands on the Arabs; meanwhile, Washington, imposing itself as mediator, tries to persuade the Arabs to accept, at least partially, Israel's aggressive claims.

At the Delhi conference of state and government heads of nonaligned countries there was resolute condemnation of the U.S. Near East course. Israel's current policy of "creeping annexation" and flouting of the rights of the Arab people of Palestine would have been impossible had the aggressor not felt that he had the constant backing of the United States. The peoples of the Arab countries, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad said, want peace in the region. But this must not be a peace in which Israel attacks its neighbors and seizes their territory. The United States, he noted, is resorting to the "Soviet threat" bugbear in an effort to destroy the unity of Arab ranks. But the peoples of the Arab countries well know that they have always received from the Soviet Union support for their just demands, whereas the United States was and still is the bulwark of aggressive policy in the region.

At its Algiers meeting the Palestine National Council dealt a heavy blow to U.S. attempts to impose the notorious "Reagan plan" as the foundation for a Near East settlement.

This plan, the council's political resolution notes, "in terms of its direction and content does not satisfy the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people."

The principles put forward by the Fes conference of heads of Arab states and government, which effectively coincide with the USSR's approach, represent a basis for a just and lasting settlement of the Near East conflict. In their Prague Political Declaration the Warsaw Pact states stressed their positive view of the Fes plan and expressed the belief that an all-embracing settlement in the Near East should envisage: the total withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the eastern part of Jerusalem; recognition of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to set up their own independent state; the safeguarding of the right of all states in the region to secure and independent existence and development; the cessation of the state of war and establishment of peace between the Arab states and Israel; the elaboration and adoption of international guarantees of a peaceful settlement. To solve these tasks it is necessary to convene an international conference on the Near East with the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO.

As for Lebanon, the UN Security's Council's clear-cut resolutions on the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from the country must be immediately fulfilled. The aggressor's forces and the U.S. Marines have no business to be on Arab soil!

STAND OF U.S., 'FLUNKYS' ON LAW OF SEA NOTED

LD181850 Moscow TASS in English 1644 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] New York March 18 TASS -- An international commission has got down to work at Jamaica's capital, by decision of the third U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea, which held its concluding session in Montego Bay (Jamaica). The international commission, guided by the provisions of the International Convention on the Law of the Sea, which was adopted at the conference, is to institute a special organ that would regulate and control exploitation of the wealth of the world ocean. Representatives of more than 120 states, signatories to the convention, participate in the commission's work.

Noteworthy is the stand of the United States and some of its allies which categorically refused to put their signatures to that important document and actually stood on guard of the interests of monopolies which plunder natural resources of the sea. These states do not participate in the work of the commission. Moreover, they declared beforehand that they would not recognize any decisions of international bodies to be formed. This runs counter to the U.N. resolutions on the issue.

As is noted in the message, which was sent to the commission by the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the international community will back any steps that will be taken against the countries which took the obstructionist stand towards the signing of the International Convention on the Law of the Sea. The message points to the great significance of formation of bodies that will elaborate and control compliance with the norms in the exploration and exploitation of the sea ocean resources.

News analysts point to the well-wishing stand of the socialist states, the representatives of which reserved the developing countries right to appoint themselves the chairman of the preparatory commission whom they will fully support.

As was stated by the head of the Cuban delegation, Deputy Foreign Minister Pelegrin Torras, formation of organs on questions of the law of the sea will be "a major step forward towards establishing a new international economic order." The Cuban delegate strongly denounced the stand of the United States and its flunkys who are unwilling to reckon with the international community..

REAGAN ATTACKS DEMOCRATS' 'ALTERNATIVE BUDGET'

LD190939 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2245 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Washington, 19 Mar (TASS) -- The attempts of the U.S. Congress, at least to some degree, to reduce the tremendous rate of build-up of military expenditure planned by the administration have caused acute discontent in the White House. President R. Reagan made a statement to journalists full of crude attacks on the so-called "alternative budget" of the Democratic Party fraction in the House of Representatives.

Recognizing that the administration's course for continuing the arms race has led the country into a most severe crisis, the authors of the budget, including T. O'Neill, the speaker of the House of Representatives, proposed limiting the rise in military expenditure by the United States in 1984 to 10 percent, and restoring the funds for some of the ruthlessly-cut social programs.

This initiative of the Democrats, dictated by harsh economic reality, was described by the President as... "a dangerous budget proposal" and even "a dagger aimed at the heart of the program for America's revival."

Defends Current Economic Policy

LD192232 Moscow TASS in English 2155 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Washington March 20 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyachelsav Kukharensky reports:

The attempts of the U.S. Congress to secure at least small cuts in the huge military appropriations planned by the administration are coming against the resistance of the White House. This is eloquently illustrated by the latest Saturday address of President Reagan on national radio. The President attacked the so-called alternative plan of the federal budget submitted by the Democrats, which envisions the restoration of appropriations for social programs, which are vital to millions of Americans, and simultaneous restrictions on the Pentagon's spending.

Reagan accused the "liberals" of irresponsibility and of gambling with national security interests. According to the President, if the Democrats budget is approved, all the efforts of the administration to reorganize the country's defence potential will come to naught. He claimed that the White House's course of "peace from strength" had presumably secured "real progress" and therefore was all but the only correct course.

The President continued to defend his economic policy, which has brought about untold suffering and privations for millions of ordinary Americans. He argued in favour of the White House's tax policy in the interests of major monopolies, the policy which has earned them billions of dollars in extra profits. Promises of prosperity and "a turn for the better," however, have remained an empty sound for ordinary Americans. Unemployment in the country has soared by almost four million during the two years of the Reagan administration and 32 million live below the official "poverty line" and have actually become outcasts. The vital programs of aid to the poor, children, homeless, elderly, sick and other needy Americans have been cut by tens of billions of dollars.

PENTAGON DIRECTIVE SEEKS NUCLEAR SUPERIORITY

PM181231 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Pentagon's Latest Directive"]

[Text] Washington, 17 Mar -- The Reagan administration continues to set up military preparations in an attempt, come what may, to change the correlation of forces in the world arena in its own favor. This is evidenced by the directive on trends in building the U.S. Armed Forces issued by Secretary of Defense Weinberger at the beginning of March, a copy of which was received by the journal DEFENSE WEEK.

The directive puts the main emphasis on achieving superiority over the Soviet Union in the sphere of nuclear arms. In particular, it envisages the production by 1986 of 100 MX ICBM's and by 1989 the deployment of new Trident II (D-5) submarine-launched strategic missiles. It is also planned to supply the Navy with another 11 nuclear-powered submarines armed with ballistic missiles by the same date.

The document confirms the U.S. intention to deploy, come what may, new U.S. cruise and Pershing II missiles in West Europe at the end of this year.

The directive devotes great attention to the creation of means of waging war in space. It is planned to supply the Armed Forces with at least 15 F-15 aircraft armed with anti-satellite missiles by 1987.

A sharp increase in the U.S. Navy's combat potential is envisaged. In the next 5 years it will gain two new aircraft carrier assault groups also including cruisers with guided missile weapons, destroyers, frigates and support ships.

By 1988 the U.S. Air Force will create five new wings of tactical fighters of 72 aircraft each, bringing the wings up to a total of 42. The number of reserve army formations will be increased by two divisions.

The might and mobility of the special sabotage and subversive forces is being increased in order to implement plans for interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states in various regions of the world.

The projected pace of buildup of military spending looks truly cosmic. Thus, it is planned to increase the Pentagon's budget from \$322.4 billion in 1985 to \$465 billion in 1989.

Prepares for War in Space

LD190926 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Excerpts from a new secret document issued by the Pentagon recently have been quoted in the American mass media. Viktor Olin elaborates:

The new document entitled "Fiscal Year 1985-1989, Defense Guidance," with the accompanying memorandum signed by Defense Minister Caspar Weinberger, provides for the allocation of almost \$2 trillion for military purposes. The aim of this program is to secure military superiority over the Soviet Union, superiority that would allow it wage a protracted nuclear war in any part of the world and make this war winnable. In short, the new document develops concepts laid down in previous similar documents covering earlier periods. Central to all of them is the reliance on military strength as a means of solving world problems. As far as the specific features of the new program are concerned, one of them is the decision to design over the indicated period new strategic nuclear missiles to replace the existing MX missiles.

The new program also envisages large scale preparations for a war in outer space. It provides for the escalation of the air, navy and ground forces.

All these measures will enable the United States to bring military pressure to bear and deliver blows not only on the Soviet Union and other socialist countries but elsewhere too, whenever it is believed that American vital interests are at stake. In other words, the United States may interfere militarily in the affairs of any country where a national liberation movement will spring up or reforms will be carried out unsuitable to Washington.

The new details published in the press about the program of military preparations of the United States shed additional light on the danger that military and political ambitions of the Reagan administration pose for world peace. It is enough to add the decisions of the new defense guidance to the calls for a crusade against the socialist countries to understand how close we are to the brink of a nuclear catastrophe. The Reagan administration, it seems, needs global military supremacy as a means of either ensuring the surrender of the socialist countries or bringing about their destruction. It also seems that Washington's assurances of its desire to resolve world problems at the negotiating table are merely tactical tricks necessary for gaining time.

'Evidence' of Arms Buildup

LD171151 Moscow TASS in English 1129 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Washington, Mar 17 TASS -- The defence guidance issued by Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defence, is evidence of the course pursued by the Reagan administration for building up nuclear and conventional weapons.

The main emphasis in the directive published in the DEFENCE WEEK journal is laid on ensuring superiority over the Soviet Union, above all in the field of nuclear weapons. It provides, in particular, for the production by the year 1986 of 100 "MX" intercontinental ballistic missiles, albeit the U.S. Congress has not yet taken a final decision on that issue. It is planned to deploy by the year of 1989 new sea-based "Trident D-5" strategic missiles. By that time it is planned to supply the Navy with another eleven nuclear submarines equipped with ballistic missiles.

The defence guidance is proof of the fact that contrary to its propaganda statements the administration does not think of making serious progress at the Soviet-American talks on medium-range nuclear missiles. This is also borne out by the fact that it mentions the start of deployment in Western Europe of new American cruise and Pershing-2 missiles as of December 1983 as a settled matter.

The strength and mobility of special sabotage troops, including the "Green Berets" and the Marines, is being increased in order to ensure the implementation of the plans for interference in the home affairs of sovereign states in various regions of the world.

The rate of build-up of military spendings by the USA looks truly cosmic. It is planned to increase appropriations on the Pentagon's activities alone from 322.4 billion dollars in 1985 to 464 billion dollars in 1989.

The purpose of the unprecedented militaristic preparations leaves no doubt that the American leaders remain to be under a delusion as regards the possibility to reverse the course of history by force of arms.

Planned Spending Will Harm Economy

LD181640 Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- TASS commentator Ivan Ablamov writes:

According to the Pentagon's "top secret defence guidance" document which has come to public knowledge now, the United States intends to spend in 1985-1989 a huge sum of almost 2 trillion dollars on military buildup. In other words, Washington is going to put a new fantastic burden of military spending on the American economy, staggering as it is under the weight of militaristic preparations.

The arms race which is being whipped up by Washington in order to attain world supremacy, tends to weaken the civilian branches of industry, deflects great funds from civilian to the military sectors of the economy, forces down private capital investments, increases the army of unemployed, aggravates imbalances in the development of regions, industries and the national economy in general, enormously increases budget deficits and thus undermines the country's finances. As Murray Weidenbaum, former chairman of the Presidential Economic Council, said, a sharp step-up in the arms race is killing the U.S. economy.

The journal FORTUNE, a prestigious publication in the USA, describes the administration's plans for military spendings for the years ahead as absolutely improbable and warns that the American economy will not be able to stand them. The magazine says that a horrifying picture is beginning to emerge before the nation's eyes. People in the USA now often express the opinion that the squandering of enormous funds on unproductive militaristic purposes will undermine the prospects of the American economy for the eighties.

American economists fear that the arms race may increase competition between the military and civilian sectors of the economy for raw materials, funds, and manpower, naturally in favour of the military business.

The business circles of the USA are also worried that the much needed "re-industrialisation" of America -- that is renewal of industry and expansion of its scientific and technical basis, needed for making the USA more competitive in the world market and requiring trillions of dollars -- will thus [words indistinct].

The business and political circles of the USA are terrified by the prospect of yearly budget deficits of 200 or even 300 billion dollars under the effect of a rapid growth of military appropriations. The congressional budget bureau stated in no indefinite terms that big military expenditures are bad for the national economy since they create the danger of a stalemate due to excessive deficit financing of military programmes. The National Association of State Governors which demanded recently, for the first time in its history, cutbacks in military spending, urged the White House to put "our financial house in better order. Otherwise we shall all die under its ruins." (Retranslated from Russian)

The arms build-up sharply increases unemployment. According to estimates made by trade unions every new billion dollars allocated for military purposes swallow up 11,600 jobs.

Ever broader circles in the USA are becoming aware of the danger of the arms race not only for the common cause of peace and security but also for the national interests of the USA. So Mark Hatfield, the well-known Republican senator, warned that the real "window of vulnerability" of the USA in the sphere of national security is an undermined economy, a disintegrating infrastructure and a diminishing capacity to compete in the world markets. All this is the price the United States has to pay for the crazy policy of the Reagan administration.

U.S. CONGRESS DEBATES CALL FOR NUCLEAR FREEZE

PM181105 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Correspondent N. Kurdyumov dispatch: "Reason Against Foolhardiness"]

[Text] Washington, 17 Mar -- At midnight on 16-17 March, after a 13-hour debate, the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress deferred a vote on a resolution calling for a mutual, verifiable freeze on the nuclear arsenals of the United States and the Soviet Union. Several days ago, as is known, the resolution, which was submitted by Democrats C. Zablocki and E. Markey and supported by 195 other members of the lower house, was approved by an overwhelming majority of votes in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. It calls for an end to the testing, manufacture and deployment of nuclear missile weapons by the two great powers and for talks to be held on reducing nuclear arsenals in the future.

The resolution submitted for consideration to both houses of Congress (the Senate will only begin discussing it in 4-6 weeks' time) was the result of the mass movement that has gripped that the United States demanding an end to the dangerous arms race and to the escalation of nuclear preparations that the Reagan administration has unleashed with a view to achieving military superiority over the Soviet Union.

Opening the debate, Democrat Edward Markey from the State of Massachusetts declared that the American people "want an end to the arms race, but this administration plainly does not strive for this aim." In the course of a lengthy discussion he was supported by many congressmen, who pointed out that the text of the resolution is a sign of the disappointment of the broad masses with the administration's policy on questions of arms control.

Three out of every four Americans, the speakers pointed out from the Congress rostrum, have supported the idea of a freeze because this course is dictated by common sense and the desire to avoid disaster.

The resolution is being discussed in a situation when the Reagan administration, headed by the President, is mobilizing all forces to smother the resolution. Last week, speaking in the City of Orlando (Florida) after receiving the news of the resolution's approval by the house committee, the President showered abuse on members of the anti-nuclear movement, calling the idea of a freeze "a dangerous delusion" of simpletons, because it would hinder the buildup and modernization of the American nuclear arsenal.

On the eve of the discussion in the House of Representatives President Reagan invited wavering congressmen of both parties to the White House in an attempt to win them over to his side.

One of the maneuvers used by the resolution's Republican opponents in Congress was an attempt to emasculate its substance by introducing an amendment. However, despite all the efforts, the amendment was rejected by 215 votes to 209.

The discussion of the resolution will be completed in the very near future. But even the beginning of the debate shows that the policy of unbridled militarism, the policy escalating military spending and war preparations is arousing growing opposition among broad sections of the country's population.

USSR, PRC CONCLUDE SECOND ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS

'Slight Progress' Made

NC181510 Paris AFP in English 1459 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, March 18 (AFP) -- Slight progress has been made in the second phase of Sino-Soviet normalization talks, which began here March 1, informed sources here said today.

The issue of the massive presence of Soviet troops along the border with China was raised at discussions between Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Leonid Ilichev and his Chinese counterpart, Qian Qichen, the sources added.

A cutback in the Soviet troop presence is one of the three demands China insists upon for better relations. China also wants withdrawal of Soviet support for Vietnamese troops in Cambodia, and a Soviet pullout from Afghanistan. The Soviets refuse to discuss these last two points.

Sources added that both sides had discussed confidence-building measures, such as a mutual cutback in forces along the border.

Though it is too early to say whether any serious progress has been made at the talks, the fact that one of the issues blocking better relations has been examined is seen by observers as an encouraging sign.

A brief communique will be published next week at the end of this second phase of the talks, which first opened last October.

Mr Qian is currently on a visit to the Soviet Central Asian Uzbekistan Republic. The visit was the occasion for the first mention by the Soviet press of Mr Qian's activities and was considered a further example of the thaw in relations between the two Communist giants, who have been at odds now for some 20 years.

PRC Delegation Visits Uzbekistan

LD191134 Moscow TASS in English 1048 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Tashkent March 19 TASS -- Qian Qichen, special envoy of the Government of the People's Republic of China and a deputy foreign minister of the PRC who is staying in the Soviet Union together with a group of advisers and experts, has spent four days in Uzbekistan. The Chinese representatives familiarised themselves with life in this Soviet Central Asian republic, visited factories and farms, and made a trip to Bukhara.

Qian Qichen was received by Minavar Tursunov, a deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan's foreign minister Bakhodir Abdurazakov gave a dinner in honour of the visitor.

The PRC's representatives today left for Moscow.

'Bent on Continuing Dialogue'

OW191339 Hong Kong AFP in English 1304 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, March 19 (AFP) -- The second round of consultations on improving Sino-Soviet relations just completed here failed to bring major developments but at least confirmed the two Communist giants are bent on continuing dialogue, analysts said.

There was no official statement here on a Soviet proposal for a nonaggression pact with China, which a high-ranking Chinese official mentioned today to a Japanese delegation in Beijing.

But a reliable source said the plan, which calls for the signing of a pact and proposals for security measures along the Sino-Soviet border, was presented at talks but did not elicit careful study by the delegations. Both sides were said simply to have expressed their point of view.

Observers said the Soviet plan had figured as one point in proposals put forth by Moscow in 1979 for an overall bilateral agreement setting down the principles of relations between the two countries.

Beijing dismissed the overture of the time but did not formally reject the idea of such a document.

Observers here said that by reviving the notion of a nonaggression pact Moscow was attempting to make headway in at least one of three areas China says are impeding normalization of relations.

The Chinese had expressed the desire for some "concrete suggestions" from the Soviet Union on the massive presence of Soviet troops along the Sino-Soviet border.

Informed sources here took as an encouraging sign the fact that the two had evoked the problem in the second round of talks which ended here this week, although China continued to insist on the two other obstacles to full resumption of relations -- Afghanistan and Cambodia.

The same sources said Moscow had proved particularly intransigent over Cambodia, where Vietnamese occupying forces are backing a pro-Hanoi regime.

Moscow believes that the Cambodian problem has no place in bilateral talks with China.

A recent Chinese plan calling for a staged but unconditional withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia has been dismissed by the Soviets, who have also refused to discuss the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan and Mongolia.

Overall, however, observers felt the most recent round of talks had shown some progress in a dialogue that both parties have agreed would continue in Beijing at a date so far undetermined.

USSR Proposes Nonaggression Treaty

OW190119 Tokyo KYODO in English 0057 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Beijing March 19 KYODO -- The Soviet Union has proposed to China, that the two Communist giants conclude a mutual nonaggression agreement, according to a Japanese socialist now in Beijing.

Yuji Soga, deputy secretary general of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), said this was made known Friday by Zhang Xiangshan, adviser to the Chinese Communist Party's International Liaison Department. Zhang met with Soga and Noboru Yagi, JSP director for international affairs, who are on a five-day visit to China which began Wednesday.

Moscow has also proposed to produce an agreement on security for the 7,200-kilometer Sino-Soviet border except for Mongolia, Soga quoted Zhang as saying.

Zhang did not say when the Soviet Union made these proposals, the Japanese said.

China does not think such an agreement makes sense unless obstacles between the two countries are removed, Zhang was quoted as saying.

In 1980, the Soviet Union was reported to have proposed to conclude a Sino-Soviet nonaggression pact. The previous proposal came after the bilateral treaty for friendship, alliance and mutual assistance expired in April 1980.

Zhang did not reveal details of the new Soviet proposal, Soga said.

The Chinese also told Soga that the two countries have completed the second round of talks in Moscow aimed at improving ties.

Border Force Reduction Proposed

OW190328 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 0100 GMT 17 Nov 83

[Text] According to correspondent Inoue in Beijing, at the recent Sino-Soviet vice foreign minister-level talks, the Soviet Union proposed that the two countries conclude a mutual nonaggression treaty.

This was disclosed by Zhang Zhixiang, adviser to the CPC Central Committee International Liaison Department, when he met with Japan Socialist Party Deputy Secretary General Soga and his party in Beijing yesterday.

After disclosing that the second vice foreign minister-level talks, which opened in Moscow early this month, had ended recently, adviser Zhang said that at the meeting the Soviet side proposed that a mutual nonaggression treaty be concluded, that China and the Soviet Union reduce their respective forces along Sino-Soviet borders except for the one between China and Mongolia, and that an instrument of agreement be prepared to this effect.

According to Zhang, the Chinese side responded that as preconditions for normalized Sino-Soviet relations, the Soviet troops should be withdrawn from Afghanistan, the Soviet Union should halt its support for the Vietnamese forces stationed in Kampuchea, and Soviet troops should be reduced along Sino-Soviet borders, including the one between China and Mongolia. Thus, the positions of the two sides reportedly are still apart from each other.

However, Mr Zhang Zhixiang also said that China wants normalized relations with the Soviet Union, not in word, but from the heart. Thus, it is speculated that the two countries will continue their vice foreign minister-level talks further, although no progress has been made thus far over basic principles.

Gromyko, Qian Qichen Meet

LD211213 Moscow TASS in English 1201 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- Today Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, had a conversation with Qian Qichen, special envoy of the PRC's Government at the Soviet-Chinese political consultations, deputy minister of foreign affairs.

The special envoy of the PRC's Government set out the positions of the Chinese side on matters of Soviet-Chinese relations and on some international problems.

Emphasized from the Soviet side was the USSR's readiness to look for ways towards the normalization of relations with the PRC and the existing possibilities for gradual broadening of bilateral ties and contacts, which would promote a general improvement of relations between the two countries.

The sides stated positive importance of the fact that the USSR and the PRC are having a political dialogue.

Taking part in the conversation were Leonid Ilyichev and Mikhail Kapitsa, deputy ministers of foreign affairs of the USSR, as well as Yang Shouzheng, the ambassador of the PRC to the USSR.

USSR NORMALIZATION 'EFFORTS' WITH PRC CITED

OW210316 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 20 Mar 83

[From the radio program of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society]

[Text] Dear listeners, the CPSU and the Soviet Government maintain that the restoration of genuine friendship with the PRC is of great significance. The relations between our two countries became complicated in early 1960's. Since then, the Soviet Union has made efforts to bring Soviet-Chinese relations back to the path of good-neighborliness. Our country has always maintained that the fundamental interests of the Soviet and Chinese peoples coincide with, rather than contradict, each other. Since the 1960's, the Soviet Union, proceeding from the common interests of the two sides, has taken important steps actively to restore and improve its relations with the PRC. The 24th, 25th and 26th CPSU Congresses, held in 1971, 1976, and 1981, respectively, reiterated our principled policy toward China. Addressing the plenary session of the CPSU Central Committee in November 1982, Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said that the CPSU and the Soviet state devote their efforts to improving relations with China. Comrade Andropov also said: The Soviet Union attaches great importance to every positive response made by the Chinese side in this respect. The Soviet people warmly support the policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government toward China.

Dear listeners, the following is a talk by Comrade (Akhmatov), a worker of the Moscow Dynamo electric machinery plant:

[Begin (Akhmatov) recording in Russian followed by translation] I, like all my comrades, warmly approve the principled course of our party toward China. The Soviet... [end recording] My comrades and I warmly support our party's principled policy toward China. The Soviet people sincerely hope to restore the friendly and cooperative relationship with the people of our neighboring country, China. During the years of the Chinese people's national liberation struggle and the period following the victory of the people's revolution in China in October 1949, the friendship between the two countries yielded fruitful results. After the founding of the PRC, our country gave all-round assistance to the Chinese people in building a new society.

Comrade (Akhmatov) adds: We, the Soviet people, are internationalists. We did our best and hoped China would become a powerful socialist state with modern industry, science, and culture as soon as possible. For instance, workers of our plant enthusiastically manufactured electrical equipment badly needed by China's economy. This was made possible under the slogan: "Give the Green Light to the Goods Ordered by China."

The friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Chinese peoples conformed with the interests of our two countries and considerably boosted the strength of every socialist country as well as the entire socialist community.

[Begin (Akhmatov) recording in Russian followed by translation] I am convinced that the establishment of genuinely good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and China corresponds with the.... [end recording] In conclusion, Comrade (Akhmatov) says: I firmly believe that it is the long-cherished wish of the Soviet and Chinese peoples to restore the genuinely good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and China.

TASS REPORTS ON PAKISTANI NUCLEAR PROGRAM

LD181444 Moscow TASS in English 1248 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] New Delhi March 18 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Bokhonko reports:

Reinforced police patrols are blocking the roads to the small populated locality of Chashma, 250 kilometres south-west of Islamabad. One of Pakistan's nuclear projects -- a nuclear reactor -- is being built there at an accelerated pace.

According to the Indian press, the Pakistani regime is now striving ever more vigorously to get hold of the nuclear weapons. A uranium ore concentration plant in Kahuta has reached design capacity. The "Kawaffa" nuclear reactor is operating near Karachi, which has already produced 20 kilograms of pure plutonium -- the main component of a nuclear explosive device. A special pit has been built in Baluchistan Province where it is planned to carry out an underground explosion. According to U.S. officials, Islamabad has come right up to creating and producing nuclear weapons, the newspaper INDIAN EXPRESS writes.

The overseas patrons of the Islamabad regime actively encourage its ambitions in the nuclear preparations. As far back as in the fifties, when Washington started to regard Pakistan as a springboard for the expansion of U.S. imperialism in Asia, the U.S. supplied it with a nuclear reactor and trained over 100 Pakistani nuclear physicists, PATRIOT writes. The Pakistani authorities bought in the U.S. and Western Europe the equipment and technology needed by them with the help of sham companies, thus creating the nuclear industry of their own.

The Indian public is genuinely concerned over this development of events. If Islamabad comes into possession of a nuclear bomb, the journal INDIAN OBSERVER points out, this will cause the aggravation of tension in the subcontinent contrary to the hopes of the peoples of that region to create a nuclear-free zone in South Asia.

REPORTAGE ON AFGHAN NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Karmal Address to Nation

LD202245 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1520 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Text] Kabul, 20 Mar (TASS) -- Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, has made a speech to the people of Afghanistan on the occasion of the Afghan new year. He congratulated all the working people of the country, workers and farmers, servicemen of the DRA Armed Forces, intelligentsia and clergy and all the patriots of the fatherland on the holiday and wished them happiness, well-being, prosperity and successes in building a new society.

It is significant that the country is now also celebrating the day of the farmer, the largest group of Afghan working people, B. Karmal said. Afghan farmers as well as all the country's working people are making great efforts to translate the historic decisions of the party and of the DRA Government into action. I hope that the new year will be a year of victories and new labor achievements for working farmers as well as for all the working people and patriots of the country.

Last year was significant because the forces of internal and external reaction were dealt a crushing blow. There is great merit in this for the heroic DRA Armed Forces and also for the detachments defending the revolution, the backbone of which is formed by the country's peasantry. I wish them fresh successes in the struggle against counterrevolution in the new year, B. Karmal stressed.

Last year was also marked by great successes and achievements in agriculture and industry. The country's working peasants made the utmost efforts to carry out autumn agricultural tasks successfully and also to begin the spring field work season. The new year is expected to bring an increase in harvests and to be a year of plenty. For its part, he added, the state is adopting all the measures necessary to provide the peasants with all that it needs: agricultural machinery, fertilizers and pesticides. It is also giving much financial and material aid to peasant cooperatives.

This spring, the sixth since the victory of the April Revolution, marks a fresh stage of the social and economic development of our society. It is only a pity that the spring skies are clouded by the threat of war being created by the forces of imperialism and reaction. Headed by the United States, international imperialism is continuing the dangerous course directed toward stepping up the arms race and escalating aggression. The White House's decision on deployment of new Pershing missiles in Europe and also the creation of a "Central Command" of the Rapid Deployment Force in Southwest Asia are clear examples of such a policy, he continued.

The new year should be the year of struggle by the international movement for peace and detente. The struggle for peace, at the vanguard of which is the Soviet Union, reflects the aspiration of all the world's progressive forces to live in peace and calm.

In conclusion, Babrak Karmal wished all peoples of the world peace, happiness and fresh success in strengthening the revolutionary movement.

DRA Appeal to Muslims

LD201809 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Text] Kabul March 20 TASS -- The Department for Religious Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has made an appeal to the people of Afghanistan on the occasion of the celebration of the new Afghan year (March 1983-March 1984). All true Moslems of the country should live in friendship, irrespective of differences in their denomination, should render each other fraternal assistance in case of (?need).

The appeal calls upon all Moslems of Afghanistan and neighbouring countries to exert every effort to end the undeclared war, which was unleashed against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan by international imperialism and reaction.

"In the new year we wish all genuine Moslems peace, happiness, well being and prosperity," the appeal stresses.

DRA PDPA CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD 19 MAR

LD191030 Moscow TASS in English 0933 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Kabul March 19 TASS -- The Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) held its 11th plenary meeting here today to discuss economic issues. The plenum heard a report by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

After pointing out the need sharply to increase industrial and agricultural production and provide the population with uninterrupted supplies of foodstuffs and other goods, he made a special point stressing the importance of stepping up the struggle against the counter-revolutionaries and raising more detachments of the defenders of April Revolution, which are made up of local inhabitants. "Now," Babrak Karmal said, "we can get down to tackling major problems and we have everything necessary to cope with them successfully. In our struggle, in our work we are not alone - we have on our side the great Soviet people and the other fraternal countries." The general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee set the key economic sectors the task of reaching the production levels of 1978-79 within the next three years. He called on the party members, the Afghan working people to devote all their energies to fulfilling this task.

The participants in the plenary session were also addressed by Soltan Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA's Council of Ministers. "Under the conditions of the still continuing interference from the outside," he said, "we as never before should substantiate our revolution economically, and to take measures to rehabilitate all the branches of industry and agriculture as soon as possible to give the working people an opportunity to enjoy the material and spiritual fruits of the revolution".

It was pointed out at the plenum that the accomplishment of the PDPA-proclaimed economic and social tasks is being hindered by unceasing aggression on the part of internal and external counterrevolutionaries who are supported by U.S. imperialism. The enemies of the DRA have organised an economic blockade of the republic and compelled the leadership of the DRA to allocate considerable funds for the needs of defence and security. The participants in the plenary session called for enhancing the responsibility of all local party committees for the accomplishment of the tasks that have been set, and for raising exactingness and efficiency in managing the development of the country's economic potential.

The plenum has adopted a detailed decision "on urgent measures by party and state bodies for resolving economic tasks in the light of the resolutions of the national conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan." The decision says that in the field of industry, construction, transport and communications it is necessary to restore within the shortest time the economic facilities destroyed by counter-revolution and resume production at enterprises standing idle. In the field of agriculture it is planned to complete on the whole the land and water reform, restore the destroyed and build new irrigation systems, and further increase state aid to the peasants. A number of decisions has been taken to improve work in the field of planning, finance and trade. The decision stresses the need for observing revolutionary law, close coordination of the work done by the ministries and departments with the committees of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and bodies of state power in the provinces.

AUSTRALIA'S HAWKE ON USSR TIES, U.S. BASES

LD181810 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Canberra March 18 TASS -- Prime Minister of Australia Labourite Robert Hawke told representatives of the press here that Australia will take steps to restore normal relations with the Soviet Union. He said his government did not want to find itself in an ambiguous position because Australia conducts trade with the Soviet Union but does not have normal relations in other spheres. Questions linked with safeguarding peace on earth cannot be discussed constructively without the Soviet Union, stressed the prime minister.

Touching upon the presence of American bases on Australia's territory, the prime minister said that U.S. tracking bases can remain in Australia, but the Australians should take a bigger part in observation over the functioning of these bases. He noted that the relations between Australia and the United States were the main and determining factor in the foreign policy of the country.

USSR'S KAPITSA, ASEAN ENVOYS MEET IN MOSCOW

BK180646 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Mar 83 p 5

[Excerpt] The Soviet Union intends to strengthen its ties with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Thailand's ambassador in Moscow, Mr Waikun Samruatruamphon, said this week.

Mr Waikun told a group of visiting Thai journalists that Moscow's intention was outlined after ASEAN ambassadors were summoned to a meeting at the Soviet Foreign Ministry on Wednesday last week.

It was the first time that the Soviet Union had accepted ASEAN as a major organised trading bloc.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa, who earlier this year visited Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, told the meeting that he planned to go to Singapore and the Philippines next month.

Mr Waikun said that Kapitsa had said at the meeting that he did not wish ASEAN to become a military grouping and was told by the ambassadors that this would not happen.

On Kampuchea, Kapitsa believed that Vietnam would not withdraw its troops, despite the huge cost of keeping them there.

He also said that a solution to the Kampuchea problem would only be achieved through a meeting of ASEAN and three Indochinese countries, the ambassador said.

Kapitsa also assured the ambassadors that Vietnam would not invade Thailand.

Mr Waikun said Deputy Foreign Minister Arun Phanuphong's visit to Moscow and Kapitsa's return visit to Thailand had contributed to an improvement in relations between Thailand and the Soviet Union since the beginning of the year.

USSR'S TIKHONOV TO VISIT SFRY 21 MARCH

Visit Previewed

LD210023 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Mar 83

[From the Vremya newscast; correspondent Eduard Mnatsekanov film report from Belgrade]

[Text] There are many places in Belgrade that recall the friendship between the peoples of our countries. It was formed over the centuries and was strengthened with the blood of their sons. It is seen in the wide, stable, and fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and Socialist Yugoslavia, and in their common aspiration for peace and detente. A special place in the development of Soviet-Yugoslave relations is occupied by cooperation between the CPSU and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, by friendly meetings and talks between the party and state figures of our countries.

It is therefore natural that people here await with interest the official visit to Yugoslavia by Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The Belgrade press expresses satisfaction concerning this visit and stresses that the forthcoming meetings between the head of the Soviet Government and the Yugoslav leaders will be a new contribution to the development of all-round relations between the two socialist countries, and will be of great international significance. [Video shows street scenes, newspaper stands]

Departs for Belgrade

LD211418 Moscow TASS in English 1350 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has left Moscow for Belgrade today on an official visit at the invitation of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia.

In the airport he was seen off by Geydar Aliyev, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister; Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and other officials.

USSR'S SMIRNOV VISITS PRAGUE, MET BY GERLE

LD211143 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1000 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Leonid Smirnov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, arrived in Czechoslovakia today on a several-day visit. At Ruzyně Airport the guest was welcomed by Ladislav Gerle, federal deputy premier, and by Aleksandr Botvin, the Soviet ambassador to Czechoslovakia.

REAGAN'S REMARKS ON ULSTER SHOW 'HYPOCRISY'

LD181515 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Washington March 18 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Pakhomov reports:

The U.S. Administration has again shown its unbounded hypocrisy. President Ronald Reagan has come forward with a statement here, declaring for the need to put an end to the "tragedy of the people of Northern Ireland". He asserted that Washington ostensibly "cannot rest indifferent" to its destiny, since it affects Ireland, Britain, and "their friends in the United States". The U.S. president called for an end to "violence and terrorism" in Northern Ireland, and attacked those forces which, according to him, create obstacles to a reconciliation process.

The head of the administration, however, passed it over in complete silence that London -- Washington's friend and ally -- is the main culprit of the tragedy in Ulster. On introducing direct rule in the province and using so-called emergency laws, the British authorities unleashed an undeclared war in Northern Ireland against the civilian population, conduct mass roundups in Catholic ghettos, and keep the fighters for civil rights imprisoned. It is they whom Reagan means when using the word "terrorists" which has become the synonym for Washington's hatred for the participants in the national liberation movements.

Meanwhile the reign of violence in Northern Ireland is to a considerable extent connected with the actions of the notorious "security forces" -- i.e. the British occupation army and the Royal Ulster Police. Suffice it to recall that 2,294 north-Irish people have been killed in the province and more than 24,000 wounded by now as a result of a campaign of violence which developed in Ulster after the British occupation troops were brought there in August 1969.

Terror, sanctioned by the British authorities instead of a solution to the political and social problems of Northern Ireland, is the actuality of present-day Ulster. However, the U.S. President who discoursed on striving for peace did not find words to condemn the neo-colonialist policy of London, which is tantamount to a tacit support for that policy.

NATO NUCLEAR WEAPONS CONTROL MEETING REPORTED

LD191406 Moscow TASS in English 1332 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Brussels March 19 TASS -- A meeting of the NATO special consultative group on nuclear weapons control has been held here. At a press conference, which was held after the meeting, was told by chairman of the group Richard Burt, U.S. assistant secretary of state for European affairs, the participants in the meeting examined the situation at the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe.

Burt claimed that the West Europeans allies of the USA "fully support" the stand of the USA at the talks, in particular the so-called "zero option". As is known, that "option" is absolutely unacceptable to the USSR, as it means actually unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union.

According to press reports, representatives of West European states insisted at the meeting of the group that the USA take a "more flexible" stand at the Soviet-American talks. As the newspaper WASHINGTON POST said, in so doing they are guided, in the first place, by the striving to prevent this way a new wave of powerful actions in their countries expected within the next few months against the plans for the deployment of new American nuclear missiles Western Europe. Nevertheless, as the London newspaper GUARDIAN stresses, the representative of the USA told his partners at the meeting in Brussels that Washington has not been prepared to put forward new proposals on arms cuts.

CONZALEZ ON NATO COMMON MARKET MEMBERSHIP

PM181147 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "100 Days Behind It"]

[Text] Madrid, 16 Mar -- At a press conference here to mark the Spanish Socialist Workers Party's [PSOE's] first 100 days in power, Felipe Gonzalez, head of the Spanish Government, stated Spain's firm determination to prevent the deployment of nuclear weapons on its territory. He said that the cabinet's position on the question of the country's NATO membership remains unchanged: Spain has suspended the process of integration in the NATO military organization.

However, F. Gonzalez announced that the referendum promised by the PSOE over Spain's membership of NATO will not be held this year nor, probably, next year either, explaining this by a reluctance "to promote an aggravation of East-West relations." The head of government also pointed out that Spain belongs to the Western camp and "lays no claim to neutralism." At the same time, obviously having in mind the presence of U.S. bases on the country's territory, he said that "no one can be satisfied when there are foreign bases on his territory."

The head of government confirmed the cabinet's intention of seeking Spain's admission to the Common Market, explaining that so far it was impossible to give any specific dates.

Speaking of the government's economic policy, F. Gonzalez stressed that recently the unemployment growth rates have slowed down somewhat, foreign capital investments in the country's economy have increased, and the exchange rate of the national currency, the peseta, has stabilized.

FRG TO SCRAP U.S. STARFIGHTER AIRCRAFT

DW182200 Moscow in German to Germany 1600 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Vladimir Ostrogorskiy commentary]

[Text] DPA reported recently that the FRG no longer wants to train pilots for the U.S. fighter bomber Starfighter, and that it intends gradually to scrap the planes of that type which are still in possession of the FRG Air Force. Our staff member Vladimir Ostrogorskiy comments on this report:

The Starfighter pilots in the FRG certainly received this news with utmost relief, for it actually has become a great risk to fly these aircraft which Franz-Josef Strauss had purchased for the Air Force when he was federal defense minister. The failures in the electronic systems of these aircraft resulted in 256 crashes and had cost the lives of 108 pilots.

At the time, the FRG press reported quite often on the circumstances under which these planes were purchased. It was said that Strauss had provided the Lockheed producer with the order -- for a respectable reward, to be sure. These were rumors of six or even seven digit figures and also the state coffers reportedly were deprived of many millions of Deutsche mark.

But this is not the most important thing. Suppose that Lockheed had been more conscientious and did not economize on the electronic equipment; or that Strauss, as the customer, had shown more responsibility and called for the removal of all construction failures detected by FRG experts: Would this have resulted in eliminating further Starfighter crashes over the FRG? In the view of experts there can neither be any absolutely unobjectionable technology nor any absolutely perfect pilot.

This was pointed out expressly by Major General (Hartmut Guelzow), the Chief of State of the FRG Air Force, in view of the useless training of Starfighter pilots and the forthcoming scrapping of these aircraft. According to (Hartmut Guelzow) the Starfighters are to be replaced by new manned or unmanned atomic bomb-carriers.

It may be that these new American or FRG carrier systems are more reliable than the Starfighters. But are Major Gen (Guelzow) and his American colleagues in a position to guarantee that there will be not a single failure among the 1,000 or even several thousands of such systems which are considered super-reliable, and that there will be no failure at all at any time in any of these planes' electronic systems, like it happened with the Starfighters? Any Starfighter catastrophe -- though it was a tragic accident -- only was costing the live of the pilot. But what happens if the electronic equipment of a Pershing or a cruise missile breaks down, if the computer of an American command center in the FRG functions wrongly? Even Maj Gen (Guelzow) -- I believe -- who welcomes the new weapons of the FRG Air Force and its American allies that much, can hardly imagine the degree of a catastrophe conjured up by such a computer failure.

If one really is striving for security then one should not replace Starfighters by Pershing missiles or something similar, and not perfected by the war technology, but should try to get rid of it as soon as possible. This, after all, is the most effective way toward security. In brief: A balanced armament parity in the East and in the West.

UK OFFICIAL RECEIVED BY KOSTANDOV, YU. BREZHNEV

LD181513 Moscow TASS in English 1351 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- British firms, grouped in the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, will apply all efforts to restore Great Britain's leading position in the Soviet Union's trading with Western countries, Ralph French, chairman of the chamber of commerce's Executive Council, has declared. He addressed today a press conference at Moscow's Centre for International Trade on the occasion of the completion of a visit by a delegation of British businessmen to the Soviet Union. The delegation included 200 representatives of British firms.

The leadership of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, Ralph French said, was received by Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Leonid Kostandov and First Deputy Foreign Trade Minister of the USSR Yuriy Brezhnev. The sides discussed at the meetings prospects for expanding trade and economic cooperation between Britain and the Soviet Union.

In the course of the talks, conducted by representatives of British firms at Soviet ministries and foreign trade organisations, he said, the sides examined questions of developing and expanding bilateral business ties. Studied at present are the possibilities of concluding export-import deals for a sum of about 1,000 million roubles.

The main objective of the visit by the British businessmen to Moscow, Ralph French stressed, was to invigorate trade links between Great Britain and the Soviet Union. An end should be put to the tradition when the British businessman regards the Australian market as a more usual place for trade than the Soviet Union.

A Soviet-British round table conference will be held in the ancient Russian city of Suzdal late in March. Its participants will discuss various aspects of problems connected with the bigger volume of reciprocal trade.

FINNISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS PREVIEWED

PM182055 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by PRAVDA correspondent M. Kostikov: "Finland: On the Eve of Elections"]

[Text] Helsinki, 17 March -- Regular parliamentary elections will be held in Finland 20-21 March. Taking part in the election campaign are 11 political parties, the main ones among them being the Communist Party, standing within the framework of the Finnish People's Democratic Alliance; the Social-Democratic party; the Center Party, and the National Coalition Party.

Internal political problems are the main subject of the election campaign. Their acuteness is explained by the general recession being experienced by the capitalist West, although it has affected Finland to a lesser extent than other countries because, as people here note, Soviet-Finnish cooperation has to a certain degree cushioned the ruinous effect of the crisis. For all that, the reviews of the economic situation published in the Finnish press testify to job cuts, growing unemployment, and a decline in real wages and general living standards.

Attention is drawn by the fact that the right-wing forces are striving to exploit the worsening economic situation to their advantage.

The emphasis on domestic problems in the election campaign is explained by the fact that a clear answer to the most important question of which road Finland should follow in the future in the international arena and in its relations with the Soviet Union was given by the electorate at last year's presidential elections which, under Finland's conditions, also choose the country's foreign political course.

Nevertheless, the prospects for the future realization of the Paasikivi-Kekkonen line are the subject of great attention by all participants in the current parliamentary election campaign.

On replacing Uhro Kaleva Kekkonen as president of the republic, Mauno Koivisto declared his determination to follow firmly the course of his predecessors, the Paasikivi-Kekkonen line aimed at strengthening the cause of peace, and developing friendly good-neighborliness and all-around cooperation with the USSR on the basis of the 1948 Soviet-Finnish Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance. This was noted during the numerous recent meetings between Finland's president and our country's leaders. This continuity in foreign policy at the highest level was received with a sense of satisfaction by broad circles of the Finnish public. Such a course is supported by practically the overwhelming majority of people in Finland. The viability of the 1948 treaty and its lasting value and significance for the development of good-neighborly, friendly, and mutually advantageous relations between Finland and the Soviet Union in their entirety are being stressed during the election campaign. At the same time people are noting its role also as an important factor in the cause of maintaining peace and security in northern Europe.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the current Parliament and summing up its 4-year long work, Finnish President Mauno Koivisto specially declared that Finland's position in the international arena has remained stable. This has been influenced to a great extent, he noted, by the efforts and activity of J.K. Paasikivi and U.K. Kekkonen. "I have no intention of calling this heritage into question and I will not permit it to come to any harm, the president declared. Soon, M. Koivisto said, we will mark the anniversary of the 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and Finland. The experience acquired during the time the treaty's has been in effect, the president noted, shows the foresight and durability of the decisions taken 35 years ago.

The election campaign in Finland is entering its final stages.

As is usual in such cases, the press is publishing different forecasts of the outcome of the forthcoming elections. The Finnish electors will place the final dot on the "i" by casting their ballot papers in the ballot boxes and thus determining the composition of the new Parliament.

FRANCE PUBLISHES ARMS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

PM151557 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Mar 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Report Published"]

[Text] Paris, 11 Mar -- The French Ministry of Defense has published a document describing specific programs for the development of French nuclear and conventional arms in 1983. The report reaffirms the French Government's stance of giving priority to the development of nuclear forces. Some F25.7 billion are earmarked for these purposes -- 19 percent of the country's military budget for the current year. Thus, by decision of the Higher Defense Council, 25 percent more funds than last year are earmarked for programs connected with the development of the nuclear forces.

This year it is planned to test the M-4 multiwarhead nuclear missiles with which French nuclear submarines are to be equipped.

The document confirms that preparatory work on the construction of a seventh nuclear submarine, scheduled for commissioning in 1994, is continuing.

France is also taking steps to strengthen its strategic Air Force. The work of modernizing the Mirage-IV, which is to be equipped with new missiles by 1985, will start in 1983. Work to harden the silos housing 18 strategic missiles on the Albion Plateau in southern France is also to continue.

Work on the development of the Hades tactical nuclear missile. (with a range of more than 350 km) is to begin this year. They are to replace the Pluton missile by 1991.

The modernization of the country's Navy -- the construction of 12 new warships in particular -- and of its Air Force is to continue.

GREECE REJECTS U.S. LETTER AS INTERFERENCE

LD191214 Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Athens March 19 TASS -- The Government of Greece has rejected as an inadmissible interference in the country's affairs the official letter which it received from the U.S. Department of State. The letter expressed "concern" over the development of Greek-Soviet relations and over Greece's support for the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Treaty member states.

"Greece does not accept any interference in the pursuance of its foreign policy -- either on the part of the USA or anyone else," a spokesman of the Greek Government has stated in this connection. "The Government of Greece pursues its foreign policy guided by the only principle: the interests of our country and our people", he emphasized.

LIBYAN JAMAHIRIYAH DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT

Tikhonov-Jallud Final Talks

LD181340 Moscow TASS in English 1258 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, had a concluding conversation with 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (SPLAJ), in the Kremlin today.

The results of conversations and talks on political, trade-and-economic, scientific-and-technical, and other aspects of Soviet-Libyan cooperation were summed up during the meeting. It was pointed out on both sides that the exchange of views, which was notable for frankness and mutual understanding, is an important step along the lines of further development and strengthening of friendly relations between the USSR and SPLAJ.

It was emphasised that meetings between the leaders of the two countries, which have acquired a regular character, are aimed both at further strengthening economic cooperation and at attaining the goals of struggle for peace, for the removal of the dangers of war, and for detente.

Much attention was devoted to the situation in the Middle East. The sides sharply condemned Israel's continuing criminal aggression against Lebanon and the Arab people of Palestine, and unceasing military provocations against the Syrian Arab Republic. Responsibility for all that is borne not only by Israel but by the USA as well.

Taking part in the meeting were as follows:

From the Soviet side -- Semen Skachkev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Nikolay Ogarkov, first deputy minister of defence, Nikolay Komarov, first deputy minister of foreign trade, Mikhail Sergeyevich, first vice-chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Nikita Ryzhov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Anatoliy Anisimov, the ambassador of the USSR to Libya;

From the Libyan side -- Yunis Jabir, member of the revolutionary leadership, commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of Libya, 'Abd al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the General People's Committee (GPC) People's Bureau for Foreign Relations, 'Abd al-Qa'ud, secretary for atomic energy, Jumah al-Arbash, secretary for electrification, 'Umar al-Montasir, secretary for heavy industries, (Da'u Saydan), deputy secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Relations, and Muhammad Husni Sha'ban, secretary of the GPC People's Bureau of the Libyan Jamahiriya to the USSR.

Economic-Technical Cooperation Agreement

LD181745 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- Soviet-Libyan documents on further development of economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya were signed today. The documents were signed by Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations Semen Skachkov and Secretary for Atomic Power Engineering of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya 'Abd al-Majid al-Qa'ud.

Soviet-Libyan Communique

LD192100 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1840 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, 19 Mar (TASS) -- We are transmitting the full text of the Soviet-Libyan communique:

"At the invitation of the Soviet Government a high-level Libyan delegation led by Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the Revolutionary Council of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah [SPLAJ], was in the Soviet Union on a friendly working visit from 16 to 18 March 1983. The delegation comprised Brigadier General Y. Jabir, member of the SPLAJ Revolutionary Council and commander-in-chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, and a number of secretaries of the SPLAJ General People's Committee.

The delegation was accorded a warm welcome, which was an expression of the close, friendly relations between the Soviet and Libyan peoples.

Talks were held between N.A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and A.S. Jallud, in a friendly atmosphere and a spirit of frankness and mutual understanding.

Meetings took place between A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and A. Al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the Libyan People's Foreign Liaison Bureau; and between Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, and Brigadier General Y. Jabir, member of the Revolutionary Council and commander-in-chief of the Libyan Armed Forces.

Those who took part in the meetings and talks expressed satisfaction with the current state of Soviet-Libyan relations and confirmed once again their desire to broaden and deepen those relations in the interests of both friendly peoples. The importance of continuing the regular personal contacts between the leaders of the two countries was stressed.

The sides had a deep exchange of opinions on key problems of the international situation and noted that the aggressive course of the imperialist forces headed by the United States aimed at stepping up the arms race and breaking the existing strategic balance has exacerbated the international situation. The Soviet Union and Libya stated that the plans to station the new U.S. medium-range nuclear weapons in West Europe now represent a particular threat to the security of the European states and of countries in the Mediterranean and Near East region.

In this connection they spoke in favor of all states making energetic efforts to prevent a nuclear war, to end the arms race, and to achieve the limitation and reduction of both nuclear and conventional weapons based on the principle of equality and equal security.

During their examination of international problems in the light of the tense situation that has now come about, the sides expressed concern over the dangerous worsening of the international situation caused by the aggressive policy of the imperialist forces headed by the United States. The sides had coinciding viewpoints on the need for increased efforts by peace-loving forces to defend the legitimate interests and rights of peoples and their sovereignty, and to rebuff the imperialist plans that threaten international peace and security.

The Libyan side gave a high appraisal of the USSR's role in maintaining and strengthening universal peace, of the Soviet Union's peace initiatives, including its pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and also of its proposals regarding limiting nuclear weapons in Europe and limiting and reducing strategic weapons.

The Soviet side gave a high appraisal of Libya's anti-imperialist foreign policy and its role in the cause of the struggle for peace and against the intrigues of imperialism, colonialism, Zionism, and reaction.

Both sides welcomed the positive new initiatives contained in the Warsaw Pact Political Declaration, adopted in Prague on 5 January this year. It was stressed that implementation of the proposal for the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries to conclude a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations would facilitate a substantial improvement in the political situation in Europe.

During the talks it was stressed that although responsibility for halting the arms race and eliminating the nuclear threat lies above all with states possessing nuclear weapons and with other states with a major military potential, every country, regardless of its size or its weight in international relations, can and should make its contribution to common efforts in this direction.

In connection with the U.S. provocative and dangerous aggressive actions at the beginning of this year against the people of the Jamahiriya and its security, the Soviet Union confirmed its decisive condemnation of provocative actions against Libya and stated that such U.S. actions are directed at undermining the generally-recognized bases for relations between sovereign states.

In an in-depth discussion of the dangerous situation that has come out in the Near East the sides confirmed that the reason for tension here is the continuing occupation of Arab territories and the expansionist aggressive policies being pursued by Israel, which is encouraged and supported by American imperialism. Special attention was devoted to the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the continuing occupation of Lebanese territory.

The sides sharply condemned this aggression and the methods of genocide in relation to unarmed Lebanese and Palestinians used in the course of its conduct, and in particular the bloody massacre committed at the Shabra and Shatila camps. The sides stated their support for the heroic struggle being waged by the Arab Palestinian people and the national-progressive forces of Lebanon against the Israeli occupiers. The sides demanded the immediate, unconditional, and total withdrawal of the Israeli invaders' troops from all Lebanese land and the maintenance of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity, and independence of Lebanon. They stated that they are on the side of the people and Government of Lebanon in rebuffing the barbarian Israeli aggression, which is being supported by American imperialism. The sides are against the conditions being foisted on Lebanon by the United States and Israel that are directed toward damaging the independence and sovereignty of this country.

The sides condemned the policy of separate solutions to the Palestinian problem and spoke out firmly against U.S. interference and growing military presence in the region, which is a direct consequence of the capitulatory Camp David agreements and which threatens the stability, security, and peaceful existence of the peoples of the region and their desire to strengthen their national independence.

The sides again reaffirmed that a just and stable peace in the Near East is possible only on the condition that Israeli troops are withdrawn from all occupied Arab territories occupied since 1967, and the implementation of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state.

The sides support the struggle being waged by the Arab people of Palestine under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

The sides condemned once again the Camp David deal and reject the so-called Reagan plan and U.S. attempts to solve the Palestinian problem as they think fit, since the United States is not only not a neutral side but is hostile to the Arab nation and to the Arab people of Palestine.

The USSR and Libya resolutely condemned the Israeli military provocations against the Syrian Arab Republic and confirmed their support for the struggle by the Syrian people against the intrigues of the Israeli aggressors and their imperialist patrons.

The Soviet Union supports the unity of the peoples of the Arab countries in their struggle against imperialism.

The sides examined the situation that is taking shape in the Mediterranean. They re-asserted the need for the hotbeds of tension prevailing there to be eliminated and confirmed their readiness to make constructive efforts in the interests of strengthening peace, security, and cooperation for the good of the peoples of the region.

The Soviet Union and Libya spoke in favor of a successful conclusion to the Madrid meeting of representatives of states participating in the CSCE, and in favor of a meaningful and balanced final document being passed at the meeting that would not only promote the improvement of the political climate in Europe, but would also be of importance for improving the situation in the Mediterranean.

Both sides condemn the U.S. Administration's decision to set up the so-called central strategic command, whose sphere of activity covers the large region of Southwest Asia, the Near and Middle East, and eastern Africa.

In essence this decision means that the United States is trying to assume the right to carry out military interference in the affairs of the countries of this region. The Soviet Union and Libya, categorically reject attempts by the American Administration to dictate ways that are to its liking to other countries and peoples.

During a discussion of the situation on the Continent of Africa the increased pressure of imperialist circles, headed by the United States, upon the countries of Africa that proceed from independent, anti-imperialist positions, was noted. In the implementation of its hegemonistic policy upon the African Continent the United States relies upon its "strategic" ally, the Republic of South Africa. The sides resolutely condemned this imperialist alliance and also the attempts by South African racists to perpetuate the inhuman apartheid system in the Republic of South Africa.

They confirmed their support for the struggle of the African National Congress of South Africa against racist oppression and exploitation, and condemned the continuing illegal occupation of Namibia by the racist regime of Pretoria, and stated their complete support of the South-West African People's Organization, the only legitimate representative of the people of Namibia. The Soviet Union and Libya are resolutely in favor of granting independence to Namibia without delay, on the basis of implementing the UN decisions on this question in their totality, and the reject U.S. attempts to tie together the question of Namibia's independence and the Cuban military contingent in Angola at the request of its government.

The sides noted the important role of the Organization of African Unity in the struggles of the peoples of Africa against imperialism, colonialism, and racism, and in the cause of maintaining peace and security and strengthening the sovereignty and national independence of African states. Mutual confidence was expressed that the countries of Africa will be able to give the proper rebuff to the intrigues of imperialism directed at splitting the ranks of the African countries and at undermining the Organization of African Unity.

The sides declared their support for the DRA in its struggle for national independence and sovereignty. They also pointed to the need for a political settlement of the situation surrounding Afghanistan, a settlement that reliably guarantees a complete cessation and nonresumption of any form of foreign interference in its internal affairs by the forces of imperialism and reaction.

The sides stressed the important role of the Nonaligned Movement in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, and racism, against the forces of war and aggression. They received with satisfaction the constructive decisions of the seventh conference of nonaligned heads of state and government in New Delhi, decisions that reaffirmed the wish of the peoples of the world to live in conditions of stability and international security. The sides expressed the firm conviction that the further cohesion of the nonaligned states would contribute to heightening their role in international affairs and to achieving full and general decolonization.

The Soviet Union and Libya stated that they view the United Nations Organization as an important forum for unifying the efforts of states to strengthen peace and international security, and stressed the importance of improving the effectiveness of the UN in the solution of complex international problems.

The sides stated their support for the developing countries' demand that a new international economic order be established and that their sovereignty over their own natural resources for the purposes of economic development be guaranteed. They pointed to the importance of reshaping present international economic relations on a just and democratic basis.

The sides spoke in favor of eliminating all forms of colonial and neocolonial exploitation and removing all obstacles and discrimination in world trade, and spoke out against the artificial lowering of prices for oil and other raw materials supplied by the developing countries.

During the talks detailed consideration was given to the present state and the prospects for development of mutually advantageous Soviet-Libyan economic, scientific, technical, and trade cooperation. The sides noted with satisfaction that this co-operation is developing successfully, and they reaffirmed their mutual wish to strengthen it and to give it all-round further expansion on a planned, long-term, mutually-advantageous basis. They charged the appropriate competent organizations to consider specific questions of developing cooperation in the sphere of power engineering, including oil, gas and the chemical industry, the training of national cadres and others.

The sides achieved an understanding in principle [printsipialnaya dogovorennost] on concluding a friendship and cooperation treaty between them.

A. Jallud and the members of the delegation accompanying him expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet side for the hospitality extended to them.

A. Jallud conveyed an invitation on behalf of Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, to Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to pay an official friendly visit to the Libyan Jamahiriyyah.

A. Jallud invited N.A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to pay an official visit to Libya.

Tripoli 'Text' of Communiqué

For the Tripoli Domestic Service "text" of the joint communiqué issued in the USSR and in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah on the visit of Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, see the North Africa section of the 21 March issue of the Middle East & Africa DAILY REPORT.

Soviet-Libyan Defense Cooperation

LD181908 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 18 Mar

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary]

[Text] Good evening ladies and gentlemen, I want to draw your attention today to some aspects of the Soviet-Libyan summit talks that have ended in Moscow. Special attention during the talks was given to the development of the economic, scientific, and technical relations between the two countries, and this is logical. As Nikolay Tikhonov said during the Kremlin reception in honor of Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, the USSR sincerely desires to see Libya a developed country from the economic standpoint, which can play a weighty positive role in international affairs and respond to all external aggression against its independence.

I want to confirm here that Soviet policy toward any other Arab country has the same objective, regardless of its social and political system. The USSR has truly equitable and mutually beneficial relations of cooperation with many Arab countries and is ready to establish and develop such relations with all other Arab states that sincerely desire this.

Let us return to Soviet-Libyan cooperation. This is aimed in the first place at the creation of a national, modern, and progressive economy in the Libyan Jamahiriyah. The USSR, therefore, provides Libya with wide assistance in the implementation of a number of promising important projects in the various sectors of the economy. At the same time the USSR looks with understanding at the defensive needs of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, which is subjected to flagrant aggressive provocations at the hand of the U.S. imperialists and their aides. The USSR, therefore, also provides Libya with assistance for the consolidation of its defensive force. Such aid is also given to other Arab countries that are exposed to the joint aggression at the hand of Zionist Israel and U.S. imperialism, those two strategic allies pursuing a neocolonialist policy hostile to the Arabs.

I want to confirm, gentlemen, that the defensive cooperation between the USSR and Libya, and Arab-Soviet cooperation in general in the defense field is not directed against any third party following an independent, patriotic policy. The Libyan Jamahiriyah is an important ally of the Arab front for the just struggle for national liberation and against imperialism. Therefore, the development and consolidation of Libyan economic and defensive forces is in accordance with general Arab interests and makes a significant positive contribution to guaranteeing the success of the Arab struggle against the Israeli-imperialist aggression and for the removal of all its traces. The Libyan Jamahiriyah makes a great contribution to the consolidation of the steadfastness of Syria against whom the Zionists and the American imperialists are preparing a new wide aggression. Finally, gentlemen, I want to cite what Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud said at the Kremlin reception, that the attack by international imperialist forces against the Arab people dictates to it the vital necessity of coordinating actions between the forces of national liberation and the socialist countries, particularly the USSR. Thank you, and peace be upon you.

Departure of Delegation

LD181510 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- A delegation from the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah led by members of its revolutionary leadership 'Abd as-Salam Jallud today left the Soviet Union. The delegation stayed here on a working visit.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Tikhonov and other officials.

Jallud Telegram to Tikhonov

LD192118 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1730 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary Libyan Jamahiriyyah leadership, has cabled Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, from aboard the aircraft. The cable says the following:

Allow me and the other members of the Libyan Arab delegation, and in my personal name, as we are leaving your country to express to you deep appreciation for the warmth of the reception and the excellence of the hospitality and welcome of the great Soviet people. I would like our profound gratitude to be conveyed to the CPSU Central Committee, the Politburo, the Soviet Government, and all the Soviet people. We praise the results of our visit to the Soviet Union. The results achieved during the talks underline the genuine friendship that links the Libyan Arab people with the peoples of the Soviet Union.

The Arab nation and its progressive forces see in the Soviet Union a true and faithful friend and a guaranteed support in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction. I assure you of our sincerity toward this friendship and of our determination to develop it in the future also for the benefit of the Arab peoples. Once again I personally express my profound gratitude to you and to all the Soviet leaders.

RUBEN MEETS WITH VISITING IRAQI PARLIAMENTARIANS

LD181525 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- A delegation from Iraq's National Council led by its chairman Na'im Haddad have visited the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The guests were welcomed by the chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Vitaliy Ruben.

It was pointed out during the friendly conversation that development of inter-parliamentary ties promotes understanding between the peoples of the two countries. The sides stressed the importance of the peace initiatives of the Soviet state directed at establishing a just and enduring peace in the Middle East and throughout the world.

Iraq's Ambassador to the USSR Fadil al-'Izzawt took part in the conversation.

The parliamentarians visited the museum "V.I. Lenin's Study and Flat in the Kremlin".

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR SYRIA

LD211129 Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, 21 Mar TASS -- A delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, led by Temirbek Koshoyev, vice-president of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, flew out of here for Syria today for an official visit. The delegation includes deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet at the invitation of the People's Council of the Syrian Arab Republic.

At the airport the delegation was seen off by Vitaliy Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and other officials.

USSR-YAR FRIENDSHIP TREATY ANNIVERSARY NOTED

LD210015 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1820 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Text] San'a', 20 Mar (TASS) -- TASS correspondent A. Ostalskiy reports:

On 21 March it will be the 19th anniversary of the conclusion of the friendship treaty between the Soviet Union and the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR]. This document, signed shortly after the victory of the antimonarchist revolution in North Yemen, raised the relations of traditional friendship linking the peoples of the two countries to a qualitatively new level. On the basis of this, fruitful Soviet-North Yemeni cooperation is developing even now. The USSR extended all-round support to the young republic in the years of its struggles against counterrevolution and reaction. At present the Soviet Union is helping the North Yemeni people to overcome their age-old backwardness and to implement socioeconomic and cultural changes.

On a mutually beneficial basis with the aid of the USSR one of the country's biggest seaports was built in the town of Al-Hudaydah, in addition to a cement works in Bajil, an agricultural complex, and other installations. The "revolution" hospital in San'a' -- one of the best in the country -- is a gift from the Soviet Union. Here, as in other medical institutions of the YAR, Soviet doctors are fruitfully working.

Specialists from the USSR are conducting a study of the YAR's water resources, participating in the construction of the second stage of the Bajil works, and training qualified workers for North Yemen. Hundreds of young citizens of the republic are receiving their higher education in the Soviet Union.

The North Yemen people highly value the great assistance and support from the USSR, Ahmad Lugman, minister of state and chairman of the board of the YAR-USSR Friendship Society, stated in an interview with a TASS correspondent. Relations of friendship and cooperation between our countries have reached a high level. A source of particular satisfaction is the fact that these ties are constantly growing stronger and developing in the interests of the North Yemen and Soviet peoples, A. Lugman stressed.

U.S. TO DEPLOY M-1 TANKS IN SAUDI ARABIA

PM181743 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Dangerous Plans"]

[Text] New York, 16 Mar -- The Reagan administration is planning to deploy up to 1,000 of the latest Abrahams M-1 tanks on the territory of Saudi Arabia. This is reported by the U.S. news agency, AP, quoting the authoritative military journal INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE REVIEW, published in London.

According to the journal's data, 200 tanks will be handed over to the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces, while the remainder are to be used by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force.

REPUBLIC COMMUNIST PARTY CC PLENUMS MEET

Georgia

PM021349 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 83 First Edition p 2

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent G. Lebanidze: "Initiative and Efficiency: From the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Tbilisi [undated] -- A Georgian CP Central Committee plenum held during the last few days discussed the accountability report on last year's work by the republic's Communist Party Central Committee bureau and secretariat and tasks in further improving the style and methods of party work in the light of the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that taking part in the discussion were almost the entire membership of the Central Committee, as well as hundreds of representatives from party, soviet and economic organs and labor collectives. Some addressed the plenary sessions while others, having acquainted themselves earlier with the report, sent the Central Committee their critical remarks and proposals which were published as special reports and appended to the plenum protocols. The high level of activity by the participants in the discussion is understandable. The report and the plenum itself not only summed up last year's results but were also aimed at the future, at the scaling of new heights and the reaching of new frontiers in fulfilling the 26th CPSU Congress decisions.

The Results Are Gratifying

The Central Committee bureau report which was submitted to the plenum and the speeches by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, and the other speakers dealt mainly with progress in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee decisions concerning Georgia's party organizations. It is well known that the resolution concerning the work of the Tbilisi Party Gorkom directed the republic party organization toward uncompromising struggle against the existing negative phenomena, errors and omissions in economic and social construction. The need to eliminate the significant lagging of the republic's economy behind the average union level was prescribed as one of the most important tasks.

What has been done to fulfill these directives by the Georgian CP Central Committee and its bureau and secretariat? The answer is contained in last year's CPSU Central Committee resolution "on organizational and political work by party organizations in the Georgian SSR in preparation for the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR." This noted there that in the last few years the practice of displaying a comprehensive approach toward the solution of political, social and economic problems has been established in the republic, the militancy of party organizations has increased and a struggle is being waged against protectionism, harmful traditions, private ownership trends and other deviations from the norms of the socialist way of life, which is helping to establish a healthy moral and political climate in labor collectives and to develop the initiative and activity of the masses. The economic potential of Soviet Georgia has strengthened and it now makes a greater contribution to the country's unified national economic complex. During the years since the CPSU Central Committee resolution on the Tbilisi Gorkom the volume of industrial production in the republic has doubled, basically from internal reserves. Average annual agricultural output has increased more than 50 percent.

What has caused these successes?

Seek and Find

The plenum assessed the achievements as mainly the result of the search for new and the improvement of tested forms and methods of party work.

For example, the coordination councils, commissions and working groups for current socioeconomic and political education problems headed by members of the bureau, secretaries and members of the central committee have developed further. They have helped to affirm democratic principles in party life and have made it possible to involve thousands of communists in active work.

Fruitful work is being done by the party Central Committee's for raising efficiency and developing especially important branches and enterprises in the republic. It was here that a new form of work has emerged: Bilateral and multilateral pledged measures [meropriyatiye-obyazatelstvo] by union ministries and republican bodies. Mutual efforts have made it possible to significantly cut the time taken to build and commission the new agglomeration plant in Rustavi and speed up the modernization work on the Zestafoni ferroalloys plant and others. The bilateral measures taken by the republic and the USSR Ministry of Automotive Industry in the creation of new capacities at the Kutaisi automobile plant are being successfully implemented. The implementation of the planned measures enabled us last year to organize the production of diesel motors ahead of schedule and create conditions for turning out several thousand of a new model of motor vehicles for rural areas this year.

The experience of the people from Abashskiy Rayon, who were the first in the country to create rayon agroindustrial associations, has received union-wide recognition. Today there is universal interest in the experiment which has begun in Poti, a territorial intersector association has been established here, making possible a rational combination of territorial and sector principles of management.

The coordination council for improving work among cadres and its sections have produced interesting work. They have contributed, for example, to the creation of a reliable cadre reserve and the improvement of its training. The republic's institute for national economic management has been broadly involved in this work. Working people's opinion of leaders of collectives was studied with help from the public opinion center under the Central Committee. Party organizations have firmly renounced the standard reports on leading workers. Workers from collectives, primary party organizations, party raykoms and gorkoms and Central Committee departments now participate in compiling them.

Improving Style

A central theme at the plenum was the necessity to further improve work style and methods in the light of the stipulations and conclusions contained in the speeches by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the Party Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the meeting with Moscow machine tool builders workers.

Serious tasks face the republic's economy in the pivotal year of the 5-year plan. In order to fulfill the adopted pledge to raise industrial production 105 percent it is necessary to increase average daily production of marketable output from R33.8 million last year to R36 million this year. Much also remains to be done in construction and agriculture. This is why the party leadership must be more active. The paperwork style of leadership must be more resolutely overcome.

Last year, in comparison with 1980, the number of resolutions adopted by the Central Committee fell by over half. The plenum demanded continuing adherence to the course of reducing the number of resolutions and concurrently raising the quality of preparatory work on questions examined by the bureau and secretariat increasing their specificity and analyticity and correspondingly improving the effect of resolutions. The main point, the participants in the plenum noted, is to aim at specific matters and not words, and achieve a weighty real effect.

Let us look at the special report published in connection with the plenum. What is said in this connection by local comrades and what are their wishes? U. Inaniashvili, steel foundry worker at the Rustavi metallurgical plant, considers it expedient to hear reports as sessions of the Central Committee bureau and secretariat by Central Committee members and responsible apparat workers on the work they have done to implement critical remarks and proposals voiced locally during their speeches at collectives.

Ye. Bestavashvili, party organization secretary at a Karelskiy Rayon Sovkhoz, suggests that the Georgian CP Central Committee inspects the practice of convening local sessions, meetings and other mass events and ensures a sharp cutback in them, especially during working hours.

Many are concerned with questions about the further strengthening of discipline. In this connection the plenum approved the work done in this direction by the republic's Communist Party Central Committee bureau and supported the initiative by the collective of the Dimitrov aviation plant in Tbilisi in launching a movement for exemplary discipline and high standards of organization everywhere and in everything. This appeal concerns not only those working at machines, but also those sitting in management offices. It is important to raise the responsibility of each person for the state of affairs in the sector entrusted to him.

The republic is preparing to celebrate as an all-people's holiday the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Georgian Treaty, the first manifestation of the friendship and brotherhood between the Russian and Georgian peoples. The events linked with this celebration are of the greatest importance for ideological work in the current year. It was noted at the plenum that the progress of preparations for the jubilee and the celebration itself must reflect the perpetual value of such lofty moral concepts as friendship and brotherhood between the country's peoples and must symbolize the Georgian people's boundless love and respect for the great Russian people.

Latvia

PM081037 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 26 Feb 83 p 1

[LATINFORM information report on "Latvian CP Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A plenum of the Latvian CP Central Committee was held on 25 February. The plenum examined the question "on the republic party organization's tasks in the development of livestock farming in the light of the decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums."

A.E. Voss, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Latvian CP Central Committee, delivered a report.

L.A. Abel, first secretary of Rizhskiy Party Raykom; P.B. Tsunskiy, first secretary of Daugavpilskiy Party Raykom; Ya.Ya. Vagris, first secretary of Riga Party Gorkom; R.Ya. Matisa, first secretary of Valmiyerskiy Party Raykom; A.A. Strode, skilled machine milking operative at Madonskiy Rayon's "Barkava" Sovkhoz; N.A. Babkin, chairman of the Latvian SSR State Committee for Production and Technical Provision of Agriculture; R.V. Kavinskiy, chairman of the "Krasnyy Oktyabr" Kolkhoz, Preylskiy Rayon; Yu.N. Yura, chief of the Latvian CP Central Committee Construction and Municipal Services Section; Yu.Ya. Ruben, chairman of the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers; and Ya.Ya. Brodelis, chairman of the Latvian SSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, took part in the debate on the report.

A speech was delivered at the plenum by V.K. Onisovets, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture Section.

A.E. Voss delivered a concluding speech at the plenum.

The Plenum adopted a detailed resolution on the question discussed, containing basic organizational-political measures for the development of livestock farming in the republic.

The plenum reviewed and in the main approved the Latvian SSR Food Program. A report on this question was delivered by M.L. Raman, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Latvian SSR Gosplan.

The plenum examined organizational questions.

The plenum transferred N.V. Denisenko, secretary of the Riga Party Gorkom, and A.A. Strode - skilled machine milking operative at the Madonskiy Rayon "Barkava" Sovkhoz, from candidate to full membership of the Latvian CP Central Committee.

The plenum confirmed Yu.I. Lysak as chief of the Latvian CP Central Committee Organizational Party Work Section.

Ye.G. Kuznetsov, instructor in the CPSU Central Committee organizational party work section, took part in the plenum's work.

Moldavia

PM141219 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "In Light of Party's Demand"]

[Text] Kishinev, 11 Mar -- The republic's working people have actively joined in the all-union socialist competition for the successful fulfillment of the national economic plans of the third year of the 5-year plan and for raising the efficiency of all sectors of social production. This was stressed at today's Moldavian CP Central Committee plenum which discussed the tasks of the republic's party organization stemming from the report delivered by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the ceremonial session devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation.

The keynote speaker -- S.K. Grossu, first secretary of the Moldavian CP Central Committee -- and the other speakers noted that in January-February this year the plans for the production and sale of industrial output were overfulfilled. Implementing the Food Program, the workers of the agroindustrial complex increased the production of stockraising output and its sale to the state and prepared well for spring field work.

At the same time the plenum revealed shortcomings in the development of individual sectors of the republic's national economy. It was noted that the existing economic potential and natural resources are still not being fully utilized for the further intensification of social production. Losses of worktime and the overexpenditure of raw and semifinished materials, electricity and financial assets are allowed.

The plenum outlined specific measures for the implementation of the provisions and instructions contained in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's report "Sixty Years of the USSR," in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and his address at his meeting with the Moscow machine tool builders.

. Belorussia

PM171041 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 83 First Edition p 2

[PRAVDA correspondents I. Novikov, A. Simurov report: "The Contribution Will Be More Weighty: From the Belorussian CP Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Minsk [no date given] -- The work of the scheduled Belorussian CP Central Committee plenum held 10 March was preceded by a visit by the participants to an exhibition of consumer goods. An unusual exhibition -- the only goods on show were those for which demand is not yet satisfied, and also examples of the best and worst articles were displayed side by side. Moreover the visitors to the exhibition learned about reserves for increasing the production and improving the quality of goods.

This helped to create the self-critical, exacting atmosphere in which the plenum discussed the tasks of the republic's party organizations arising from the report by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the ceremonial session devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation.

A report on this question was delivered by N.N. Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee.

"The friendship and fraternity of the Soviet peoples," the speaker said, "is the source of the invincible strength and prosperity of each republic and of our whole country. Soviet Belorussia, resting firmly on international collaboration and above all on the selfless assistance of the great Russian people, has scaled great heights in socio-economic and spiritual development. Our paramount patriotic and international duty is to increase the republic's contribution to the whole people's property on the basis of increased social production efficiency."

The plenum came to the conclusion that work to increase the efficiency of the republic's national economy is not taking place equally everywhere and is not proceeding as successfully as the party demands and as life demands. Labor productivity is increasing at an unsatisfactory rate, and in recent years that rate has even slowed down. For or instance, last year labor productivity in industry increased by only 3.2 percent, and in construction by only 1.8 percent. And this at a time when the capital-labor ratio, expenditure on introducing new machinery, the pool of automated production lines and the number of comprehensively mechanized and automated sections, shops and production facilities were increasing sharply.

The main reason for the situation which has arisen is the poor utilization of reserves and low return on labor. In a word, it is mainly a matter of shortcomings in organizing the management of production. Last year there was a shortfall of approximately R435 million in output in the republic's industry purely because of losses of working time and idle time within shifts.

The second key problem is the need to strengthen the policy of thrift and ensure the rational utilization of material, financial, and manpower resources. It was stated at the plenum, for instance, that in the last 10 years metal waste in machine building and metalworking has not decreased, and totals some 24 percent. And Belorussia uses 3 million tons of rolled metal annually. The plenum demanded from the council of ministers, the Gosplan, and ministries and departments in the republic a more profound analysis of the state of affairs regarding the use of material resources, and an improvement of the system for norm-setting and accounting for resources.

The task of making fuller use of fixed capital was set. The modernization, retooling, and re-equipping of enterprises must be the main means of increasing production volumes. Good experience exists in the republic. For instance, the Minsk worsted combine, following this path, has increased its capacity for the production of woolen textiles by 8 million square meters, releasing 500 people at the same time.

Such work is proceeding well at the Gomel measuring instrument plant, the Brest hosiery combine, and other enterprises under the Ministry of Light Industry, and in instrument making and agricultural machine building in the republic.

The plenum attached particular significance to improving the quality of output. Speakers noted the good quality of articles from the Minsk tractor plant, the Minsk truck plant, and certain machine tool building plants. But many types of output are still considerably behind today's best examples in a number of important indicators. Serious complaints were made, in particular, about the leadership and collective of the Belorussian truck plant. Much must be done to improve the KSK-100 fodder harvesting combine at the Gomselmash.

The plenum participants noted with satisfaction that in the main the collectives of the republic's industrial enterprises have begun the year well. The January and February plan for the production and sale of industrial output was overfulfilled. Articles worth R92.6 million were produced above the target. But a number of enterprises were in debt as regards inter-republican deliveries, which cannot, of course, be allowed to continue.

In the countryside too the current year is marked by certain changes. For instance, there has been some increase in the productivity of the dairy herd, in livestock, and poultry numbers. Meat and milk procurements have increased. But the republic has fallen behind over the first 2 years of the 5-year plan. Much work must be done to eliminate this debt. The plenum set this task: by making skillful use of the restructuring of the administration of the agroindustrial complex, to advance to the frontline of potato growing, restore the former good reputation of Belorussian flax growers, and successfully resolve the key problem in livestock raising -- that of increasing the production and improving the quality of fodder.

Questions of ideological and educational work figured large in the plenum discussion. In the republic, as in the whole country, the struggle for organization and order is being stepped up and those who do not fulfill their labor and official duties are being called more strictly to account. The speakers said that this work must be continued and deepened. The strengthening of discipline is directly associated with the prevention of considerable losses -- both economic and moral.

Belorussia's party organizations have accumulated considerable experience in propagandizing the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy; the ideas of Soviet patriotism and internationalism, and in educating working people in our glorious revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions. More than 400 universities of the peoples' friendship, military-patriotic, and moral training and education now operate here. Some 5,000 museums, halls and rooms devoted to V.I. Lenin, to combat, and to labor glory have been created in educational institutions, as well as more than 3,500 international friendship clubs.

The plenum participants said that leadership workers at all levels must meet with working people more often. These contacts -- lively and informal -- must become the norm in party work. And leadership workers must know how to listen carefully to what people say, and not just to speak. Then leadership cadres will become more aware of what kind of problems arise and why, and how they can be resolved.

Great significance is attached to improving the style of all economic, organizational, and party political work and to increasing its effectiveness. It is time to get rid of the urge to hold endless meetings and the paper, office style of leadership. Local cadres complain that various sessions and conferences have "encroached" to such an extent that there is no time left for real work. In some rayons farm leaders and specialists have to visit the rayon centers 15-20 times a month on various summonses. How can there be any question of real work with real people after that?

The plenum also discussed the tasks of the republic's party, soviet, and economic organs in increasing the production, improving the quality of consumer goods, and improving trade in these goods in the light of the demands of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum. A report was delivered by L.S. Firisanov, secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee.

Lengthy resolutions were adopted on the questions discussed.

CPSU CONTROL COMMITTEE'S POSTOVALOV DIES 17 MAR

LD191254 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] On 17 March, after a severe illness in the 76th year of his life, Sergey Osipovich Postovalov, deputy chairman of the Party Control Committee of the CPSU Central Committee, passed away. A faithful son of the Communist Party has departed from life, one who selflessly served its cause.

The obituary, signed by leaders of the party and state, says that Sergey Osipovich Postovalov was a man with an exceptional love of work, true party principles, demanding on himself and others. He was distinguished by his modesty and simplicity, attentiveness and sensitivity, his fair attitude to people. The bright memory of Sergey Osipovich Postovalov will remain forever in the hearts of Soviet people.

LEADERS RELIEVED OF POSTS; NEW APPOINTMENTS MADE

Latvian Minister Named

WA180900 [Editorial Report] Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian on 16 February carries on page 1 two 50-word Latvian Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees: one appointing Comrade S. S. Kulseshov minister of the Latvian SSR Construction Materials Industry, and the other, freeing Comrade N. I. Dorofeyev from the duties of minister of the Latvian SSR Construction Materials Industry.

Uzbek State Committee Chairman

WA161030 [Editorial Report] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 17 February carries one page 3 a 50-word decree of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium announcing the appointment of Tukhtamysh Baymirov to the post of chairman of the Uzbek SSR State Committee for Water Resources Construction.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 18-20 MARCH

LD210300 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian from 18-20 March. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

18 Mar

Dzhambul Oblast has already sown grain crops on more than 150,000 hectares. The area given over to corn for grain has been much increased on irrigated land. Work is going well. (0200 GMT)

Traditional February windows in the Kuban mark the first serious checks on the readiness of farmers for spring work. Almost 2 million hectares will be given over to spring crops. Over 10,000 units will be working to the contracting method. Kuban agricultural workers have decided to raise the gross yield of grain to 8.35 million tons. (0200 GMT)

The sowing of alfalfa has been completed by the machine operators of the Batken Valley, the first in Kirghizia to do so. Mass sowing of perennial grasses is currently in progress not just in the south of the republic, but also in the Chu and Talas Valleys. Over 130,000 hectares have been allocated for fodder grasses this year in the republic. (0900 GMT)

The entire fleet of sowing and cultivating machines has been repaired in the Ukraine, Belorussia, Moldavia, and a few other republics and oblasts. In the country as a whole 97 percent of such machines are ready for operation. Ninety percent of tractors and 72 percent of combines have been repaired. (1200 GMT)

19 Mar

Many farms are completing preparations for spring field work. Over 12,000 tractors have been overhauled, almost one-third of them high-performance K-700 models. (0000 GMT)

Farmers in the southern zone of Rostov Oblast plan to sow early cereal and pulse crops in 60-80 working days and eventually to gather no less than 8.5 million tons of grain. (0304 GMT)

Field work has started on the greater part of the Ukraine's territory. Farms in 12 oblasts are today sowing early crops. This spring some 5,000 mechanized detachments and teams will start working according to the collective contracting method. This is 2.5 times more than in 1982. (0700 GMT)

Last month grain growers in Stavropol Kray succeeded in preparing 700,000 hectares of arable land for sowing in the February windows. This is one-third of the area under spring crops. But with the arrival of March winter has returned. The task set is to grow 4.7 million tons of grain. (0907 GMT)

20 Mar

Selective sowing of summer crops has begun in northern Ossetia. A yield of 47 centners of corn per hectare has been pledged. (2304 GMT)

OFFICIAL ON PREPARATIONS FOR SPRING FIELD WORK

LD182053 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0905 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Commentary by Yuriy Alekseyevich Nikitin, deputy chief of the Main Administration for Grain Crops and General Problems of Agriculture]

[Summary] "At the present preparations for spring field work in the majority of the country's oblasts and republics are practically coming to an end. According to data from the USSR CSA on the state of affairs as of 1 March, the level of preparation of tractors and soil cultivating and sowing machines exceeds that of last year: 89 percent of tractors, 95 percent of sowing machines, and 97 percent of soil cultivating machines have been prepared for work. All soil cultivating and sowing equipment is completely ready in kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Ukraine, Belorussia, Moldavia, the Central Volga-Vyazka, Central Chernozem Zone, Volga area, and Northern Caucasus regions of the RSFSR.

"The state of preparation of tractors and seeders in the Central Asian republics has improved considerably. Earlier there were delays in repair. In February this year alone, the level of readiness of seeders in Turkmen SSR farms rose by 22 percent and in Tajik SSR by 12 percent.

"Agricultural workers in Kazakhstan and the RSFSR are particularly concerned by the state of readiness of the powerful K-700 and K-701 tractors. Although their state of readiness is somewhat higher than last year, there must be a considerable increase in the rate of repair of Kirovets tractors to ensure that they are ready by the start of field work. This is particularly so in Kuybyshev, Kemerovo, Novosibirsk, Omsk, and Tyumen Oblasts, Altay Kray and also in the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan.

"Preparation of seed for sowing has already been completed. The quality of seed is considerably higher than last year. Grading works of the USSR Ministry of Procurements have totally dispatched to consumers the necessary amount of seed corn. The areas sown to grain corn and field corn with high-yield, fast-ripening hybrids have been expanded considerably this year. The farms have been completely supplied with seed for sugar beet, cotton, flax, and other crops."

Preparation of improved land for the vegetable period has been completed. A complex of work has been carried out to repair and clean internal farm improvement networks and to wash out saline land.

Organic fertilizer is being applied to the fields. Some 809 million tons have already been applied which is 68 million tons more than for last year's harvest. Application rates are higher than last year everywhere except in Turkmenistan. Top dressing of winter crops has been carried out on 15 million hectares.

Farms in the Kazakh, Uzbek, Kirgiz, Turkmen, Azerbaijan, and Georgian SSRs are sowing grain, vegetables, and fodder crops in an organized manner. In the past few days kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Moldavia and a number of southern oblasts of the Ukraine have begun this work.